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Weekly Series Release
No. 1

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

STATE PLANNING BOARD

928 North Third Street

Harrisburg, Pa.

Reference
F. A. Pitkin
Director
Tel: Harrisburg-5151 Ext. 787

RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 11, 1936

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Physical Characteristics

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin Director Pennsylvania State Planning
Board.

If the pupils of our public schools could make an aerial excursion over the 28,993,491 acres that we call Pennsylvania, they would gain a realization of their state that would stick in their memories long after their geography lessons had been largely forgotten. Their's would be a mental picture of a topography varied and imposing beyond words to describe.

They would see the grandeur of the Appalachians stretching from the Northeast to the Southwest through the central part; the higher ranges of the west sloping off to the East and to the shores of Lake Erie. They would see the Susquehanna, the Delaware, the Allegheny and the Monongahela Rivers. The two latter pursue their majestic courses toward Pittsburgh there to unite and form the Ohio.

It was not always so. Time was when what is now Pennsylvania

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was engulfed in a huge and restless ocean. Over endless years, nature wrought many changes. Long before man appeared on the scene Pennsylvania was at various times a mass of bare rock, a sea of mud, a dismal swamp, a vast expanse of shifting sand, a pathway for irresistible glaciers. During those long ages mighty convulsions of the earth raised up towering snow-capped mountains over 15,000 feet high, although the maximum elevation is now only 3,213 feet.

Pennsylvania covers 45,302 square miles, and ranks 32nd in area among the states. Only 294 square miles of this is in water, for the State has no large inland lakes. About half is in forests and recreational lands, 42 per cent is in farms, and 7 per cent is used for cities, boroughs, villages, highways, railroads and industries. The State is more than twice as large as New Jersey, Maryland, and Delaware combined, but is 5,000 square miles smaller than New York.

Rain that falls on Pennsylvania finds its way to the ocean by various routes. It may drain into Delaware Bay through the Delaware River and its branches, or into Chesapeake Bay through the Susquehanna and Potomac Rivers and their tributaries. It may drain into the Gulf of St. Lawrence through streams discharging into Lake Erie, or even into the distant Gulf of Mexico through the Ohio River and the branches which feed it.

Man divided Pennsylvania into 67 counties, but natural geography, which influences the ways in which men earn their livings, has divided the State into a number of sections which have nothing to do with county lines. Nature gave Pennsylvania rich farming lands in some parts, and in others steep wooded mountains, good pasture lands, valuable deposits of coal, oil, rock and other minerals, and desirable locations for cities and industries.

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Weekly Series Release
No. 2

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

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Harrisburg, Pa.

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 18, 1936

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Population Trends

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Director Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

To know modern Pennsylvania one must understand the significance of population figures. In 1930 the population of Pennsylvania was 9,631,350. This was more than twice the population of New Jersey and Delaware combined, and nearly as large as the populations of Ohio, West Virginia and Maryland put together. Among all the states only New York had a larger number of inhabitants.

Pennsylvania's population is not growing nearly so fast as it once did. Half a century ago the growth was rapid. The 1890 census revealed 1228 people in the State for every 1000 in 1880. This was a gain of nearly one-fourth. The increases shown by recent censuses have been much smaller. Between 1920 and 1930 there was a gain of only 105 (or a little over one-tenth) in every thousand population, and present indications are

that when the 1940 census is taken it will show an increase over 1930 of only 30 or 40 in each thousand.

Unless this tendency changes Pennsylvania's population soon will begin to grow smaller instead of larger. If this happens it will be something new in the State's history, and will have a decided effect on the lives of all of us. It will mean that there will be continually fewer children and young people, but more adults and old people. This will make changes necessary in the school system, in the building of houses, in planning for work, for play, and for every part of living.

There are two reasons why Pennsylvania's population is not growing so fast as it formerly did: fewer babies are being born and more people are moving out of the State than into it. In 1910 there were 26.5 babies born for every thousand Pennsylvanians, but in 1930 there were only 19.6. Experts in population trends predict that Pennsylvanians birth rate will fall even lower than this within the next 25 years.

Probably the population already would have ceased to show even this slight increase if it were not that the average length of life is greater than it was formerly. The number of deaths among infants and young people has been lessened so much by modern health methods and medical knowledge that the death rate in the state is only 2/3 as much now as it was 25 years ago. In 1910 there were 15.6 deaths for every thousand people, but in 1930 there were only 11.6.

Between 1920 and 1930 large numbers of people moved into Pennsylvania, but even larger numbers moved out. Those who left during this 10 years period numbered over three-quarters of a million more than those who came in.

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Weekly Series Release
No. 3

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 25, 1936

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

The Population Make-up

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by
F. A. Pitkin, Director of the State Planning Board.

In an earlier article we have seen that the population of Pennsylvania appears to be tending toward stabilization. This is an added reason why we should be seriously interested in the make-up of the present population and the changes that have occurred in recent years, and that may be expected in the future. For every phase of the State's life social, economic and political - from education and housing to manufacturing and selling - is powerfully affected by population changes.

There are no entrance requirements for Pennsylvania residence. Any person, whatever his age, can become a Pennsylvanian simply by living within the State, just as anyone can become a New Yorker, or an Ohioan, for the United States requires no passports from those who wish to move from state to state. To be counted as a Pennsylvanian a resident need not

necessarily be a citizen of the United States.

More boys than girls are born in the State, but more women than men live to old age. This is because the death rate for boys and men is higher than that for girls and women. In 1930 the State had 101.2 males to every 100 females. There are more women in the cities and among the native-born white residents, but more men in the country and among the Negroes and foreign-born. In 1930 sixty out of every hundred over the age of fifteen were married. Thirty-two of each hundred were single, and eight were widowed or divorced. Fewer persons were getting married in 1930 than in 1920.

The average Pennsylvania family contains 4.23 persons. In 1930 there were 2,089,612 families of two or more persons, and 637,859 persons living alone or away from their families.

Nearly 8,000,000 Pennsylvanians, or more than four-fifths of the entire population, are native-born white persons. Not quite 13 out of every 100 are foreign-born whites. The number of these is growing less all the time because the United States is not admitting as many immigrants as it once did. Less than 5 out of every hundred Pennsylvanians are Negroes, but the number of Negroes is steadily increasing. There are so few Indians, Mexicans, Chinese, Japanese and Filipinos in the State that taken all together they amount to less than one one-thousandth of the total population.

EMcK - MB - 11/4/36

Weekly Series Release
No. 4

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

STATE PLANNING BOARD

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1936

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Where Pennsylvanians Live

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Director, State Planning Board

In Colonial days the great majority of Pennsylvanians were farmers. Only a small percentage settled in towns, where ways of earning a living were few. Farmers raised or fashioned most of the things they needed. But the nineteenth century brought a great change. Machines were invented to do much of the work formerly done by hand, and in the cities factories were opened. Sons and daughters of farmers left the country to work in these factories and stores.

In the half century before 1930, Pennsylvanians moved steadily from the country toward the city. By 1930 less than one-third of the population was living in the country, and only one-twelfth was on farms. More than two-thirds of the State's people were dwelling in boroughs or cities of more than 2,500 population. Of these urban dwellers more than half were in cities of 50,000 or more.

The depression, starting in 1929, caused a sudden turn in the tide. Between 1930 and 1934 people started going back to the land. A survey made by

Civil Works Administration workers in 1934, indicated that most Pennsylvania cities of more than 25,000 lost population from 1930 to 1934, while small towns and country districts gained.

The twenty-five largest cities in the State lost more than one-twentieth of their 1930 populations. Indications are, however, that many of those who have moved in the last few years to abandoned farms will return to the cities as opportunity for work there appears.

More than two-thirds of the State's population lives within the ten big city districts of Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Scranton-Wilkes-Barre, Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton, Erie, Reading, Harrisburg, Lancaster, Altoona and Johnstown. These districts include not only the cities named but also their suburbs and the nearby smaller towns whose inhabitants depend on the cities for shopping and in many cases for employment. More and more people have moved to the suburbs in recent years since improved railroad, bus, and trolley commuting services have made it possible for them to live away from the crowded sections where they work. While these large city districts have grown, most of the northern and central counties of the State have been losing population steadily for thirty years.

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Weekly Series Release
No.5

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 9, 1936

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

How We Are Housed

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Director, State Planning Board.

In Pennsylvania, more than in most parts of the United States, it is still the custom for a family to occupy a house all by itself. In 1930 nearly 83 per cent of the houses in the State were single dwelling units, but in the recent years there has been much doubling up of two or more families in one house.

At least half of the dwelling houses in the State are more than thirty years old. Many of these, even in cities, have no plumbing facilities or sewer connections. In our largest city there are certain slum areas where a recent study showed that nearly half the houses had no water closets or bathtubs, and that the only heat was from the kitchen stove.

America has a reputation as the land of bathtubs and all modern conveniences, but in 1930 only two out of every ten Pennsylvania farm houses had bath rooms or heating systems, only three out of ten had electricity and

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telephones, and four out of ten had running water. In the company-owned bituminous coal mining villages the houses are almost entirely without modern conveniences, and sanitary conditions and sewage disposal are so bad as to be a constant danger to the health of the inhabitants.

Bad housing is frequently one of the factors to which bad health may be traced. A study made recently in Pittsburgh showed that tuberculosis occurs most widely among persons who live doubled up or crowded into rooms without adequate light, air, or plumbing facilities.

In 1930 Pennsylvania had 2,235,620 occupied houses and apartments (including dwellings in two-family houses). Probably there were fewer occupied dwellings in 1935 than there were in 1930. Many old houses have been torn down to save tax payments, and few have been built to take their places. Others are vacant because families are unable to pay the rents demanded, or have lost properties they were buying because they were unable to continue payments.

Rents of houses and apartments in the State dropped about 30 per cent on the average in the 1930-1935 period, but the incomes of Pennsylvanians declined even more. In 1933 the average family's rent bill was about one-third of its entire income. Many fell far behind in their rent payments.

Buying a house was even more difficult for most Pennsylvanians than renting, for their incomes were not sufficient to meet the high prices. Even in 1935, when property was selling at lower prices than it had in years, more than half the houses built in Philadelphia cost at least $5,000. Yet to pay for a $5,000 house a family must have an income of from $2,000 to $3,000 a year, and only about one-eighth of the families in the State had that much. Therefore many new houses remained empty while people who could not afford to buy or rent them continued to live in crowded and rundown buildings.

Weekly Series Release
No. 6

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 16, 1936

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

More Modern Houses Needed

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Director, State Planning Board.

Pennsylvania needs at least 325,000 new dwellings with an average size of four rooms to properly house those who are now living under crowded conditions or in dilapitated quarters. Of these present unsanitary "homes" many should be either torn down or completely remodeled.

This estimate of new housing required does not provide for persons who have been stranded in former "company towns" from which industries have moved or no longer offer employment. In many instances, families must be moved to new locations if they are to again become self-supporting.

Assuming the need of 10,000 new dwellings to accomodate this group, we find that a total of 335,000 additional homes must be provided at once if all Pennsylvanians are to be given a chance to live in adequate modern houses.

Besides these emergency requirements, however, Pennsylvania

has a normal need for more than 35,000 new dwellings every year, not only to replace houses which wear out and become obsolete, but also to provide for the constantly changing needs of the population. At present, with the population growing very little, there is a continual demand for an increased number of dwellings of smaller size than the average home of the past. This is because there are many more family units requiring separate living quarters than there used to be, while the average family has fewer members than it formerly had.

Despite this need for new houses, Pennsylvania's building construction industry remained almost at a standstill between 1929 and 1935. It should be possible for every family to live in a house or apartment with direct sun, clean air, decent outlook, and modern heating and sanitary facilities. Nor should it be impossible for each dwelling to be located close to an open space where children might play, or to contain at least one room per person, counting living room, dining room, and kitchen.

Plenty of land, plenty of light, plenty of air, plenty of materials, and plenty of unemployed construction workers are all available. What obstacles, then, stand in the way of these needed improvements?

One handicap to new housing programs is that the cost of building an average house has more than doubled in the last twenty or twenty-five years. Only part of this greater cost is for modern improvements. The rest goes for speculative land prices, sales and promotion costs, mortgage expense, commissions, construction loans, and other "financing" charges which seldom add to the actual value of the house as a home. Very few new houses will be built as long as builders depend upon financial methods which have quick profit as their main aim. Other obstacles will be discussed in a later article.

Weekly Series Release
No. 7

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 23, 1936

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

How Shall We Build?

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Director, State Planning Board.

In an earlier article it was pointed out that Pennsylvania needs some 335,000 additional homes, but that few new homes would be built under the present quick profit methods of financing. Let us go back a little to get more light on this important subject.

Pennsylvania, like all the others of the United States, grew up with the pioneers' idea that land would constantly gain in value. The story of Manhattan Island, where the fabulously rich city of New York rose on land purchased from the Indians for twenty-four dollars worth of trinkets, is deeply rooted in the American imagination. Real estate owners continue to hope that the land they hold will make them rich some day, even though the slowing down of population growth has made future speculative profits highly improbable.

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This means that the most dilapidated slum properties are still being held and taxed at such unreal values that they are far too expensive to be rebuilt into economically priced modern dwellings. Owners of slum areas, in the hope of protecting their investments, frequently oppose any plan for building new houses to rent or sell at a low cost, even though inexpensive modern dwellings are badly needed.

The fact that hundreds of thousands of Pennsylvanians are living in antiquated, crowded, unsanitary homes while many newer houses can not be rented or sold seems to indicate that there is something wrong with the present method of building and selling houses. Modern houses cannot be built at low cost except by mass production and large scale methods. It seems probable that whole neighborhoods will have to be planned and built as a group in order to insure comfort and economy to a large number of people rather than speculative profit to a few.

The Federal government, has attempted to encourage the construction of new homes in this State by financial aid through emergency agencies. It is possible that large cooperative groups may take over part of the job of building modern housing without profit. In fact the hosiery workers of Philadelphia, with Federal aid, already have completed a group of apartments.

Another way, which is being tried successfully in England and which our Federal government is inaugurating in various parts of the country, is for the national, state and local governments to plan, finance and construct low cost homes on a large scale as a public responsibility. Such a program would not only provide needed housing facilities, but would raise the standard of living of many Pennsylvanians and create useful employment for thousands of men who, with their families, must now be supported by public relief.

Weekly Series Release
No. 8

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

STATE PLANNING BOARD

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 30, 1936

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Feast and Famine

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

In 1929, there were 3,851,337 Pennsylvanians, or 40 per cent of the population of the State, who had money incomes totaling nearly eight billion dollars from wages, salaries, profits, interests, rents, etc. The other 60 per cent, including housewives, invalids, children, and aged or unemployed persons, had no money income, and so were dependent on others. A little more than four-fifths, or $6,597,000,000, of the total 1929 income was received by families of two or more persons. The rest went to unattached persons living by themselves.

If the families' $6,597,000,000 income had been equally divided among the more than two million families in the State each would have received $3,157. The actual division was very far from equal, however.

One-fortieth of the families received almost one-third of all the income, averaging more than $13,000 a year per family, or over $10,000 per person. Nearly two-thirds of the families had annual incomes under $2,000, averaging but little over $300 per person.

That was in 1929. In the years following, unemployment and depression removed or seriously reduced the incomes of millions. The six million persons who in 1929 had only $300 apiece had much less than that in 1935. Their incomes became so small that, for many the maintenance of a modestly comfortable standard of living was impossible. In 1929 nearly 3,700,000 Pennsylvanians received wages or salaries. In the same year at least 157,480 others received income not from work, but from interest, rents, dividends, and other profits on invested capital.

In recent years, however, it has become impossible for everybody who wants work to find it. This unemployment is caused by a number of factors, one of which is called technological unemployment. For years men have used their ingenuity to invent machines to do their work for them and now the machines have become so efficient that there are fewer and fewer jobs left for men to do. Some of the workers displaced by machines are able to find jobs in new industries or in expansions of old industries, but new opportunities have not developed fast enough to absorb them all. In recent years a million or more Pennsylvanians have been left without employment.

Because of this lack of employment it has become necessary in the last few years for Pennsylvania and every other state, aided by the United States Government, to support large numbers of citizens by giving them "relief". Relief payments are very low, barely enough to keep human beings from starving or freezing. There is no comparison between them and the "comfortable standard of living" mentioned above.

Weekly Series Release
No. 9

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

STATE PLANNING BOARD

928 North Third Street

Harrisburg, Pa.

Reference
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Tel: Harrisburg-5151 Ext. 767

RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY JANUARY 6, 1937

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Our Daily Bread

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by
F. A. Pitkin, Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

Pennsylvania's citizens, receive the essentials of life in four different ways. Some work for a living to support themselves and others. Some (many of whom also work at home but are not paid in cash) are dependent upon their working relatives for support. Some own investments or real estate from which they get enough interest or rent to enable them to live. Others because of inability to find work, or because of physical or mental ailment or other misfortune, must depend upon public relief or private charity.

One of Pennsylvania's biggest present problems is to find useful ways in which the million or more men, women, and young people now out of work can again become self-supporting citizens.

Four out of ten Pennsylvanians are classed as workers -- when work is available. In 1930, over 3,700,000 were "engaged in gainful occupation."

By far the greatest number (38.1 per cent) were manufacturing and mechanical workers, employed in such places as steel mills, machine shops, repair shops, silk mills, clothing and knit goods factories, tobacco factories, and bakeries. About one-eighth were engaged in trade; selling food, clothing, automobiles, furniture, drugs, hardware, and everything else that the public needs and buys.

Nine per cent were working as maids, cooks, gardeners, chauffeurs, and in other domestic or personal service; while nearly the same number were employed in offices as clerks, stenographers, secretaries and bookkeepers.

Next in number were those employed by railroads, bus and trolley companies, and telephone and telegraph companies. These were 8.6 per cent of the total. Pennsylvania has a large number of miners, making up 8.1 per cent of all her workers in 1930, even though employment at the mines has dropped off in recent years.

The next group (6.8 per cent) were those earning their living on farms, including a few woodsmen and fishermen. The remaining 8.2 per cent were either in professional fields, such as law, medicine, or teaching, or they were in the service of the Federal, State, or local governments.

These figures, when compared with those of previous years, show that the number of persons engaged in producing things is growing smaller all the time. Ninety per cent of workers are employed by others, who pay them wages in exchange for their labor.

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Weekly Series Release
No. 10

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

STATE PLANNING BOARD

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Harrisburg, Pa.

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY JANUARY 13, 1937

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

The Daily Wage

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by
F. A. Pitkin, Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

Although Pennsylvania is one of the richest states in the Union, her workers' average weekly earnings were, early in 1933, lower than those in any other northern state east of the Mississippi. In the manufacturing industries workers received an average of $13.70 a week in March, of that year. Clothing factories paid particularly low wages, with the average worker receiving $7.50 a week in October, 1932. Because great numbers of persons were unemployed and willing to take jobs at any wage, employers could hire labor at rates so low that many workers were not able to live on their earnings.

The Federal government's attempt to regulate wages through the N. R. A. caused a substantial increase in earnings. Within a year manufacturing employees' pay rose from $13.70 to $18.50 a week. A number of states, in order to maintain wages above starvation levels, have passed minimum wage

laws making it illegal to pay workers less than a specified amount for their labor. Pennsylvania, however, has no minimum wage laws.

Less than a century ago it was taken for granted that "man must work from sun to sun" (while woman's work was never done) on every day but Sunday. Now it is more common to find people working from 30 to 50 hours a week -- although some workers are still required to stick at their jobs 70 hours a week or more.

There are several reasons for this general shortening of working hours. One is the development of machines and labor-saving devices which enable men to accomplish greater results in less time. Another is the change in the public's idea concerning the value of leisure. Leisure was once considered dangerous and almost immoral, and people were supposed to be safe from mischief only if they kept busy. Nowadays, however, more and more are beginning to realize that leisure has good and important uses, and that a man can be a more valuable citizen if he has time for recreation, hobbies, and community activities than if he has to devote his entire time to earning a living.

A third reason for shorter hours is the growing influence of the workers themselves. Through their organizations, workers negotiate with their employers regarding hours, earnings, and other working conditions. Nearly half a million Pennsylvania workers are members of trade unions.

EMcK - MB - 11/11/36

Weekly Series Release
No. 11

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

STATE PLANNING BOARD

928 North Third Street

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY JANUARY 20, 1937

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

How Can The Unemployed Find Work?

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board

Since 1929 a million Pennsylvania workers have been looking and hoping for jobs. They used up all their savings and were forced to accept public relief or private charity to keep alive. Thousands of boys and girls coming out of school and college found no employment.

It will be remembered that by the end of 1934 nearly three-quarters of the State's building construction workers were unemployed, together with about one-third of her clothing, metal, coal mining, and transportation workers. Some authorities say that many of these will never get jobs in private industry again, because machines have taken their places, and new and better machines are being developed all the time.

The displacing of men by machines is very far from being the

whole reason why so many workers are unemployed, however. Perhaps a more important cause is the extremely unequal distribution of wealth, which forces millions to do without many of the things they need because their incomes are too small to buy them. Hundreds of idle factories could now be running at top speed, giving employment to thousands of workers, if only the average Pennsylvanian had money enough to purchase their products.

The State has many important tasks that her unemployed workers can perform. There are roads to be improved; trees to be planted; public buildings, schools, hospitals, and sewerage plants to be constructed; more health, educational and recreational services to be established.

Most projects of this sort return no immediate profit, and therefore their original cost can be paid only from government funds. If governments are to carry on public works at times when private employment is low they should have large reserve funds definitely planned for this purpose. In the recent emergency the lack of such reserve funds enormously complicated the problem of financing such a program. Even if the establishing of such funds requires temporarily increased taxation of various sorts, the cost in the long run should be less than that which results when a large proportion of Pennsylvania's workers are permitted to sink periodically into unemployment and despair.

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F.A.P. - RS - 12/18/36

Weekly Series Release
No. 12

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

STATE PLANNING BOARD

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Must Children Work?

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

The question of whether children should be allowed to leave school at an early age to go to work has caused argument for many years. Most persons feel that education and body-building are the most important jobs of the girl or boy under 16 or 18, and that the child who is put to work too soon will be handicapped later in life by lack of preparation. Others, however, believe that work gives more valuable experience than school or play, and that an early start is the key to success.

Employers usually can hire children at lower wages than they would have to pay adults. This means that where children are employed, they often compete with and replace grown workers with the result that the adult wage scale is forced down.

In recent years child labor has been tremendously reduced because of the great scarcity of employment and the regulation of industry by the government. In 1934 only 216 Pennsylvania children aged 14 and 15 left school to go to work on official employment certificates, as compared with more than 120 times that many, or 26,015, in 1927. The thousands of children working outside of school hours, or employed in domestic service or farm work, are not included in these figures.

In Pennsylvania's earlier days, before machines cut down the amount of work that men and women had to do, it was usually essential for children to share the labor. Nowadays, however, most people agree that it is not logical to employ children when there are more than enough adults to do the necessary work.

Occasionally we read of some grandmother or grandfather who has just found time to go back to school or college and resume studying. Incidents of this sort are typical of the modern belief that education is never completed. Many persons who think when they are children that schooling is a waste of time find out later in life that they are badly handicapped without it.

All this ties in with the question of educational opportunities, and in succeeding articles the public school and colleges of Pennsylvania will be discussed.

Weekly Series Release
No. 13

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

STATE PLANNING BOARD

928 North Third Street

Harrisburg, Pa.

Reference
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Director
Tel: Harrisburg 5151-Ext. 767

RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

After Graduation, What?

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

Of the boys and girls graduated from Pennsylvania high schools in the four years preceding 1936, nearly half are neither employed nor receiving college or special training. Among those who have left school without being graduated, the percentage without occupations is also high. This means that many thousands of young people are forced into idleness at the very time when they should be choosing a career and either entering or preparing to enter their life's work.

Pennsylvania has 2,582 public school districts with nearly 12,000 separate schools and 63,000 teachers. These districts vary widely in

size and character. Philadelphia, for example, is a single school district although it has a population of nearly two million people. In contrast, nearly half the State's school districts have less than one thousand inhabitants. Naturally, the small school districts cannot offer nearly so varied a program of education as the larger ones. In fact, only 1,160 give a full four-year high school course, and a large number of these high schools are too small to have a complete staff of teachers and a reasonabl wide choice of courses. In recent years between two and three hundred school districts have endeavored to remedy this situation by consolidating to give their children, through their combined resources, an adequate high school education. However, only one-sixth of all the school districts offer commercial courses, one-tenth have vocational courses and one-fortieth evening schools.

More than half of Pennsylvania's elementary schools are still confined to one teacher school houses. If many of these could be replaced by consolidated schools, it would be possible to offer a broader choice of studies. Until this is done, citizens in some parts of Pennsylvania will remain far behind others in their educational opportunities.

Pennsylvania's public schools are supported partly by local school taxes and partly by financial aid from the State. In 1935 the cost of running the schools, exclusive of debt service and capital outlay, was $74.72 per pupil. The total 1935 school bill of $131,799,169, again excluding the above items, was more than twice what was spent on public schools in 1919. One of the chief reasons for this increase was that a much greater proportion of students were in senior and junior high schools, where the instruction costs more than in the elementary grades not only because the teachers usually are better trained but also because the variety of courses is greater.

Weekly Series Release
No. 14

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

STATE PLANNING BOARD

928 North Third Street

Harrisburg, Pa.

Reference
F. A. Pitkin
Director
Tel: Harrisburg - 5151 Ext. 767

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K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Homeless Children

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Director Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

Nearly thirty thousand Pennsylvania children under the age of sixteen do not live with their parents. Some are orphans, and others come from homes that have been broken up by divorce, unemployment, illness, or mental trouble. About 57 per cent of these are in children's homes and orphanages, while the others are living with private families in foster homes. The expense of caring for them is borne in some cases by public funds (through the State, the counties and the local poor boards), and in others by private welfare agencies.

It seems likely that many of these children's own homes might never have been broken up if their parents had been able to obtain greater security through unemployment insurance, mothers' assistance, workmen's

compensation or merely through more adequate relief. The present unemployment relief program is holding together many families that might have disintegrated without it.

There are many causes for men and women or boys and girls doing things that are harmful to society. Usually society has harmed them first -- or at least they think it has. Children whose homes are broken up, boys and girls who do not make out well at school or cannot get a start in life through work and training, unemployed men who see their families needy and suffering, persons whose only homes are dark, crowded, insanitary rooms -- all of these are more likely to turn criminal than are those whom life is treating more kindly Crime cannot disappear as long as conditions which breed criminals exist.

Once it was generally thought that when a person committed a crime, he should be sent to jail for punishment. Nowadays, however, many believe that first offenders should not be imprisoned but should be placed on probation and given guidance and supervision by the courts in an effort to prevent them from repeating their mistakes and to help them become good citizens. When imprisonment does become necessary, it should serve more for training than for punishment and should prepare prisoners to tackle the job of living with better equipment than they had before.

Pennsylvania's penal system, in practice, is several steps behind this theory, however. Many county prisons and local jails give their prisoners no training and often succeed only in making them more bitter against society and more anxious to "get even." The State's own correctional institutions are making an effort to understand their inmates' problems and help them to find the right road, but they are handicapped by lack of space and equipment for wholesome recreation and serious training. Under present conditions only a small proportion of prisoners are able to engage in regular productive work.

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Tel: Harrisburg-5151

RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Guarding the Health of Pennsylvanians

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

An interesting thing about effective modern public health measures is their simplicity. With cleanliness, nourishing food, adequate rest, and pure air, plus special care at critical times, such as that of childbirth, the average person can avoid most serious illness. Cleanliness, however, means far more than that bodies and clothes and dwelling places shall be free from dirt and germs. It means also that water and milk and food supplies must be pure and sanitary if infections and epidemics are to be avoided. Public eating places must be kept clean. Sewage and garbage must not be allowed to spread pollution.

To a certain degree every individual is responsible for protecting his own health. No doctor or government agency can force a citizen to

keep himself clean, to sterlize minor wounds, to eat nourishing food, to get plenty of rest. There are some important health factors, however, over which individuals have no control. One of a hundred thousand citizens in a large city, cannot take personal charge of the purification of the water that flows from his kitchen and bathroom faucets. Nor can he force the milkman to deliver pure milk, or supervise the cleanliness of the restaurant where he eats his lunches, or prevent anyone with a contagious disease from mingling in society. These things can be cared for only by the health departments of the local and State governments, which have legal authority to enforce their rulings.

Pennsylvania's State Department of Health has had much to do with the State's remarkable freedom from serious epidemics in recent years. Such matters of public importance as pure water supplies, safe sewage disposal, restaurant hygiene, vaccination, and milk sanitation all are subject to its regulations. It supervises the 900 local boards of health and enforces quarantine laws in country districts having no health authorities of their own.

The physical condition of school children and those not yet in school is examined regularly either by local or by State health officers, according to the size of the community. Many defects that might cause serious trouble later in life are thus either cured or prevented from growing worse.

Some of Pennsylvania's most valuable public health services are performed by the State chapter of the American Red Cross, which is a privately financed organization. Other organizations which have had much to do with the average Pennsylvanian's greatly changed attitude toward constructive care of the health in recent years are the State Medical Society, the

Pennsylvania Tuberculosis Society, the Parent Teacher Associations, the State Federation of Pennsylvania Women, and the State Crippled Children's Society.

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Pennsylvania's Drive to Stamp out Syphilis

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by
F. A. Pitkin, Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

State and local authorities, civic agencies and newspapers, for years have carried on an energetic campaign against an annual slaughter that in 1936 took 1998 lives from Pennsylvania. Cause of these 2000 untimely deaths? Auto accidents.

For years also have State and local health authorities, together with the doctors of Pennsylvania, waged a campaign against a far greater scourge, though much easier to combat, which annually takes three times as many lives in this State as did autos last year. Not only death but also insanity and permanent disability are the results of this "mad dog" disease. But the valiant campaign against it, far less widely publicized because of

the "hush hush" attitude of public and press, has consequently been far less effective in its results. "Taboo"has been the watchword of syphilis; "shame" its greatest helper.

Last month, however, the picture changed, at least in Pennsylvania. Dr. Edith MacBride-Dexter, secretary of the State Department of Health, announced completed plans for a State-wide campaign against syphilis, with the warning that only through proper and adequate publicity can Pennsylvania and the rest of the Nation stamp it out.

America, because of its false modesty, has lagged far behind other Nations in destroying syphilis, "the great masquarader," so named because it is often mistaken for other diseases and ailments. Sweden, for instance, had only one new case reported in 1934 to every twelve in 1919.

Contrary to a popular belief, syphilis can be cured even if it has progressed to its third and final stage, though it is naturally much harder to cure at so late a time.

Briefly, Dr. MacBride-Dexter's drive against it will embrace the following high-points: The increase in number of State-operated clinics from 70 to 80, free distribution of medical supplies to doctors for patients unable to afford treatment, compulsory reporting by doctors of every new case to the Department of Health, enforcement of regulations to quarantine the more infectious cases, investigation of uncured patients who stop taking treatment, a publicity drive to end all association in people's minds of syphilis with immorality.

At the State clinics every precaution will be taken to preserve the confidence of the patients, and the names of those receiving treatment will not be divulged. Nor will it be necessary for the doctors to give names when reporting new cases to the Department of Health.

Syphilis may be contracted through intercourse, kissing, moist towels, public drinking cups, etc. It is hard to detect in its first stages although the germ spreads to all parts of the body within a few days. The first sign is a painless sore - chancre - which appears in three or four weeks. Other symptoms are a sore throat, a body rash, loss of appetite, and a run-down feeling.

The second stage is known as the waiting period. This usually lasts about twenty years, though it may take fifty years or only a few months. In the final stage, the germs attack the nervous system, causing paralysis and insanity, and centering in certain organs such as the eyes, ears, stomach, and bones.

At the first suspicion, one should go to the doctor. For those who can not afford treatment, the doctor applies to the Division of Biologicals and Supplies, in Harrisburg, which sends him without cost the necessary specifics.

Such free distribution of medical supplies has been responsible for the tremendous reduction in the number of deaths from diptheria. In 1906, the first year of such distribution, the fatalities were 2438; in 1935, they were 155.

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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

STATE PLANNING BOARD

928 North Third Street

Harrisburg, Pa.

Reference
F. A. Pitkin
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Tel: Harrisburg - 5151 - Ext.767

RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3rd. 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

How the Sick are Cared For

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by: F. A. Pitkin, Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board

The average life span of Pennsylvanians is lengthening. Also the accompanying tendency to chronic diseases is constantly increasing. There is a pressing need for the development of some new form of public health service for those of advanced years who are chronically ill.

In addition to its thousands of doctors, Pennsylvania has hundreds of hospitals. Most of these give so much free or below-cost care to needy patients that they are unable to meet all their expenses from their own funds. Because of this the State gives financial aid mounting to nearly four million dollars a year to 163 hospitals throughout the State. Even this large sum is not enough to pay for all the free and nominal-charge

hospital services rendered to the public.

Besides the many privately-owned hospitals for treatment of all types of illness there are a number of hospitals owned and supported by the State, county, and city governments. Some of these are for patients needing ordinary medical and surgical attention. Others are for the care and treatment of sufferers from tuberculosis and mental troubles. The State has one hospital exclusively for the care of crippled children. Other medical and surgical assistance is given to crippled children through the Orthopedic Unit of the State Department of Health and county agencies.

Public Health nursing of patients who cannot afford private care is practiced on a large scale not only by State, county, and school district nurses but also by the Visiting Nurse Associations and the American Red Cross.

Perhaps Pennsylvania's most serious present deficiency in the provision of health service to its citizens is the lack of adequate public or moderate-priced institutions for the care of the chronically ill. Improved preventive methods are enabling people to escape infections and live to greater ages than heretofore, but they are not yet able to prevent or cure many of the deteriorations of the human body which come with age. For thousands of needy old people suffering from the slow ravages of diabetes, arthritis, cancer, heart disease, syphilis and other chronic ailments there is no place to turn for care except the almshouse. In most cases this is not an adequate refuge, however, for only eleven of Pennsylvania's eighty-five almshouses furnish thorough and competent medical and nursing service. Further provision for this class of patients should be made.

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K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Too Many Governmental Units

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

In Pennsylvania there are more than 5,600 governmental units each with the power to collect taxes. This multiplicity of neighborhood governments was natural enough in earlier days but now that we have good roads, automobiles and telephones, many believe that government could be made more effective and less costly by combining some of the smaller units or transferring some of their functions to the State.

Pennsylvania is divided into 67 counties. In these counties are 2,561 municipal units: 47 cities, 1 town, 936 boroughs, and 1,577 townships. These cities, boroughs, and townships are also organized into 2,584 separate school districts and 425 separate poor districts. All of these thousands of small units collect taxes and keep up governmental organizations, with elected and appointed officials totalling over a hundred thousand.

Population of the counties ranges from a little over 5,000 to nearly

2,000,000. All but 4 of the 47 cities have more than 10,000 inhabitants. Boroughs vary widely in size, all the way from one with less than 20 people to another with more than 35,000. A few townships are made up of the thickly populated suburbs of large cities, but the great majority are rural districts.

Nearly 45 per cent of the State's population live in cities, 26.6 per cent in boroughs, 4.9 per cent in first class townships, and 23.6 per cent in second class townships.

Since the State, the counties, the townships, and the boroughs can all perform many of the same duties it is confusing to the average citizen to know where one's power ends and the other's begins. There are, for instance, State, county, and city courts of law, besides local magistrates and justices of the peace; highways built by the State, by the county, and by the township, borough or city; several different kinds of police forces and prisons; and all kinds of tax collectors.

Only about one-fourth of all Pennsylvanians take an active part in government by voting in the elections, although more than half of them are entitled to vote. Possibly this is due in part to the fact that the whole business of government is too complicated to be easily understood and that the responsibility of the individual is seldom fully appreciated.

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No. 19

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STATE PLANNING BOARD

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Harrisburg, Pa.

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K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Paying for Government

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
By F. A. Pitkin, Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

Many of Pennsylvania's cities and other local units are spending more money to operate their governments than they are able to raise in taxes. They are becoming increasingly dependent on the State and Federal governments for funds.

For the expenses of governments are paid by taxing the citizens. Some taxes, such as those on incomes, inheritances, and profits, draw most heavily on persons who have more than the average amount of money. Others, such as those on gasoline, cigarettes, liquor, amusements, and other sales draw equally on all who purchase the items taxed.

Now both the local and the State governments are finding it hard to raise enough money through taxes to meet all their expenses, particularly since the spread of unemployment made it necessary to spend so much on relief and welfare. Taxes on real estate have always furnished the largest

part of local governments' income, but in recent years many property owners have been unable to pay their taxes, while the decline in real estate prices has made it necessary for tax assessments to be reduced in many sections. This means that the income from real estate taxation is much lower than it formerly was.

Those who spend this public money have a great responsibility. Who are they? Pennsylvania's State and local governments are largely carried on by officers who are either elected by the people or appointed by elected officials. A few cities choose their employees by means of civil service examinations. Popular election of public employees has its disadvantages, for voters cannot be expected to tell, simply by reading a name on a ballot, just how well qualified a candidate may be for specialized duties such as the handling of financial affairs or the building of good highways.

Because of this flaw in the popular election system, many students of government are now urging that cities and boroughs be managed by a single official or city manager. This official would not be elected, but would be appointed after thorough examination for his ability and professional training. His assistants would be chosen for their merit as revealed in civil service examinations. In this way it is asserted most public offices could be filled by capable persons well equipped for their work.

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No. 20

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Our State Government

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

In recent years the trend has been toward transferring many functions of local government to State government. This is largely because all parts of the State have been drawn closer together by modern newspapers, communication, and transportation. The citizen in one County knows all about the roads and the schools in other Counties, and believes that he is entitled to roads and schools just as good. The only way to make this possible is through State supervision.

The state officials - legislators, Governor, Treasurer, Auditor-General, Secretary of Internal Affairs, and judges for the State courts have specific responsibilities.

The Governor has many duties. He must approve the laws made by the General Assembly. He must plan (subject to the General Assembly's action) how the State is to get its money and how it is to spend it. He must appoint officers who are responsible for supervising Pennsylvania's farms, forests, waters, health, banking, insurance, justice, labor, industry, military affairs, mines, building construction, education, revenue collection, police, welfare, highways, public utilities, and other activities. Each of these appointed officers is in charge of a Department, Board or Commission. Through these divisions the State does many things that have a direct effect on our daily lives.

The Department of Agriculture, for example, helps farmers to stamp out diseases among their cattle, advises them how to grow better crops, and studies ways of fighting harmful insects. The Department of Health works to prevent contagious disease, protects the public from tainted foods, milk, or water, and furnishes care and nursing to sufferers from tuberculosis.

The Department of Labor and Industry provides public employment offices to help Pennsylvanians find work, helps to prevent accidents by inspecting the safety of buildings, boilers, elevators, mines, and quarries, and aids injured workers in learning how to become self-supporting again. The Department of Highways builds and maintains thousands of miles of roads in every part of the State. These and all the other departments of the State government perform hundreds of services important to all Pennsylvanians.

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K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Depression Aided Planning

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

Pleasant recollections of the depression period may be few, but there is one that will take on added significance in the years to come. It is that of the impetus given to planning by the forced recognition of the need for a preview of the future development of our towns, cities, counties and states.

According to the National Resources Committee, there are today 1553 town, city, and county planning commissions trying to develop comprehensive plans for the future of their communities and seeking to coordinate action by private and public groups to carry out the plan.

Until very recent years, we had no state plans. Now there are 47 state planning boards, and 35 of them are operating on a continuing basis under acts or resolutions of state legislatures. These state planning agencies are engaged in the preparation of "master" plans for the develop-

ment of state resources. They are assisting and cooperating with local planning agencies on the one hand and with adjoining states and the Federal Government on the other hand.

But resources, and hence the projects to develop them, are no respecters of political boundaries. In different parts of the country, as in the Pacific Northwest, the metropolitan area of St. Louis, New England, the Delaware River Valley, the Ohio River Basin and the Tennessee Valley, experiments are underway for the preparation of plans covering interstate areas - harmonizing the proposals from the different States and showing the possibilities which lie ahead for regions as well as localities.

The need and method of planning for these areas are both applicable to the national field. Through the National Planning Board of the Public Works Administration and its successors, the National Resources Board and the National Resources Committee, close relations have been developed with regional, state, and local planning agencies and with the many planning arms of the Federal departments and bureaus.

Within the Federal Government, there are planning agencies of one kind or another for each of the departments and bureaus concerned with public works. The Corps of Engineers and the River and Harbor Board are planning navigation, flood control, and power projects. The Bureau of Reclamation and the Bureau of Agricultural Engineering are concerned with irrigation and drainage works. The procurement Division of the Treasury and the Bureau of Public Roads plan buildings and highways.

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION Wednesday, April 7, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Farming Still A Leader

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

Agriculture continues to be one of the most important classes of industry in Pennsylvania. Over half of her land, including that in private wood lots, is still in farms. This despite the fact that only one-twelfth of her people live on farms.

Once Pennsylvania was a State of farmers. In 1900 there remained 224,248 farms. By 1930 the number had dwindled to 171,419. However, in 1935 the total had risen to 191,284 indicating that unemployment elsewhere had caused many persons to return to farming.

In the State's early days her farmers were nearly self-sufficing. As the cities and factories grew, farmers began to raise more crops to sell to town dwellers who could not raise their own. In doing this they tended to produce a smaller variety of things for their own use, until today they are in many ways as dependent on purchased goods as are city people. This

means that they need more money income than their ancestors did.

Most modern farmers specialize in one or two products, and if these fail, or if the market for them is poor, their growers are in a much worse plight than are those who produce a greater diversity. Fortunately our farmers have maintained a wider variety of activities than farmers in most other sections of the country. For this reason agriculture here has suffered less during the depression years than it has in many other states.

Dairy products are the most valuable division of Pennsylvania's farm yield, bringing in nearly half of all the cash income received. Farm crops, which include potatoes, grain of all kinds and tobacco, come next. Third in income value are chickens and eggs, followed by vegetables, fruits, nursery and greenhouse products, swine, and cattle.

Very nearly half of the farm land is used not for crops, but for pastures and wood lots. Of the land that is in crops nearly four-fifths is devoted to raising corn, wheat, oats, and hay.

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION Wednesday, April 14,1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Threats to Farming

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

In the last hundred years Pennsylvania has lost about half of her top soil through erosion. Unless great care is taken and improved farming is practiced , there will be practically no fertile soil left after another hundred years of cultivation.

Present day farmers are able to produce more on less land than their ancestors did. The average Pennsylvania farm nowadays is less than 90 acres in size, while in 1870 it was over 100 acres. An acre planted in potatoes yields, on the average, a 60 per cent larger crop now than it did forty years ago, while yields on all other crops have also increased. These improvements have been brought about through use of better seeds and varieties of plants, improved methods of cultivation and fertilizing, and better control

of insects and diseases. Less attempt is made now than formerly to grow crops on poor land that is not suited to them.

Modern farm methods are proving more efficient than old ones not only in growing crops, but also in milk and egg production. The amount of milk given by a cow is about one-third greater now than it was in 1900, and the number of eggs laid by a hen has increased one-eighth. Partly because of the hilly nature of his land the average Pennsylvania farmer still depends on horses to help him with his work, in spite of the development of tractors, trucks, and other mechanical farm implements. In 1929 there were about 400,000 work horses and mules on the State's farms -- only 33 per cent less than in 1900, before automotive power had been developed for farms.

With a suitable climate vegetables, grain, fruit, and all kinds of plants grow well in soil that is fertile; but when the soil is barren, no matter how hard the farmer works nor how good the climate is, the crops are poor and small. The thing that makes land fertile is the top soil, which is rich because it contains the remains of plants and animals that have decayed in it for centuries. This top soil is seldom more than six inches deep. Underneath it the ground is raw and barren, and contains little nourishment for plants.

Thousands of acres of Pennsylvania land upon which farms were once operated successfully are no longer fit for growing crops. During successive years of plowing and cultivation the rich surface soil has been washed away, little by little, until now nothing but the barren subsoil is left. This process of washing away is known as soil erosion.

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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Soil Erosion

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board

The recent report of the State Planning Board on "Problem Areas in Pennsylvania" shows that in the last hundred years the State has lost about half of her top soil through the process of washing away known as soil erosion.

Erosion is usually worst where the slope is steepest, but even on fairly level ground the soil loses its fertility if the same crops are grown and harvested on it year after year. Good farmers keep their soil fertile by adding lime or fertilizer regularly and by "rotation" of crops. In cultivating hilly land, they grade it into terraces or leave strips of grass and rows of trees to keep the good soil from washing down hill into the rivers and valleys.

Many farmers, however, are still trying to cultivate land which has become so poor that fertilizing and crop rotation will not help it. Thousands of Pennsylvania farms have been abandoned by owners who can no longer make a living on them. This is chiefly because the soil has become too barren to grow good crops. When a farmer can produce only small quantities of inferior crops for which there is little market in competition with higher grade products, his cash income soon becomes too small to pay his taxes and his living expenses.

Not only this but between 1910 and 1930 the taxes on farm land increased 159 per cent, while prices of farm products increased only 47 per cent. It is not surprising, with taxes so high, that many farmers cannot pay them. When many farms are abandoned it becomes very difficult for owners of the remaining farms in the neighborhood to keep up the highways and support the public schools, and in many sections they have had to ask the State for financial help.

It is estimated that at least a million acres of cleared land are lying idle in the State although many of the formerly deserted farmhouses have been rented during the last few years by families who have been driven from the cities by unemployment. Much of this abandoned and unprofitable land might be bought by the State, the counties or the Federal government and turned into forests or public recreation areas for such outdoor sports as camping, fishing, swimming, hiking and hunting. Not for a great many years will all the State's worn-out land be needed again for farming purposes, but if it is changed into forests and parks it will be filling a real public need.

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Determining Problem Areas

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by: F. A. Pitkin, Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

The question has been asked as to how the staff of the State Planning Board determined what were "problem areas" as described in the Board's recent report to Governor Earle. Such areas were found in 267 townships.

Experiments were conducted in Cumberland, Perry and Juniata Counties, on account of their proximity to Harrisburg. This was done by making a careful analysis of the various facts and figures available from the Bureau of Census and other fact-finding sources. This material, compiled by cities, townships and boroughs, was studied to determine which of its classifications would be the most useful as criteria to indicate the probable existence of problem areas. As a result, it was decided that problem conditions should be held to exist in any township revealing a combination of the following factors:

Loss in population; low population density; low agricultural productivity; low value of taxable real estate per capita; low value of taxable real estate per acre; tardy tax payment; and low value of farm land per acre.

All of the townships in the State were ranked in order from the best to the poorest, according to the tabulated figures for each of the seven criteria. The results were plotted graphically on charts to indicate the range of variation of each criterion for the whole State.

Those townships which were consistently low in rank in each of the various criteria were selected as problem areas. These townships were delimited on a map in order that their aereal distribution might be studied. Then followed a refinement of the selection based on consideration of such factors as presence of State owned land, annexation and proximity of land to cities and boroughs, and other facts and general knowledge pertaining to each locality, which might explain or supplement the statistical ratings. The grouping of the townships thus selected was carefully studied, and all doubtful, scattered or isolated townships were eliminated. In some cases, where detailed local information was available departures from township boundaries were made. On this basis the final selection of 279 problem townships was made. A selected group of 75 of these townships having extremely low ratings was tabulated separately.

EMCK - MB - 3/16/37

Weekly Series Release
No. 26

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

STATE PLANNING BOARD

928 North Third Street

Harrisburg, Pa.

Reference
F. A. Pitkin
Director
Tel: Harrisburg - 5151-Ext.767

RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, MAY 5, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Land Transportation

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by: F. A. Pitkin, Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

Long before white men came to Pennsylvania there were well-worn trails across her rolling hills. In colonial days travelling from settlement to settlement was a hard and dangerous task, for the few roads were still little more than Indian trails. Not until nearly twenty years after the Declaration of Independence was the first real turnpike completed, extending 62 miles from Philadelphia to Lancaster.

In amazing contrast to this earlier lack of transportation is modern Pennsylvania, with over a hundred thousand miles of railroads, streets, and highways, and with ways of communication not only by land and water but through the air above and the earth beneath. And all this in less than a century and a half after the slow, laborious building of that first Philade

lphia-Lancaster Turnpike!

Through the mountain passes of Western Pennsylvania moves the most concentrated railroad freight traffic in all the world -- western produce moving east, eastern manufactures moving west, coal and steel and iron ore moving to and from the giant industries of Pennsylvania. For the entire State the annual railroad traffic amounts to over a hundred and fifty million tons of freight and nearly fifty million passengers. The State has 18 main steam railroad systems with over 11,000 miles of track. This is a quarter-mile of railroad track for every square mile of the State's area, or nearly four times the proportion of track mileage to square miles in the United States as a whole.

In addition to all this are the electric interurban and street railways of the State, including trolley cars, subways, and elevated and high speed lines. In spite of the huge number of passengers they carry, their tracks cover only a little over 3200 miles, or less than a third as much as railroads. This is due in part to the fact that during the past few years many miles of trolley tracks have been removed as the trolleys were supplanted by buses. The electric railway mileage in this State is, however, eight times as much per square mile as is to be found in the United States as a whole for, naturally, Pennsylvania, with her many cities and their outlying suburbs, has a far greater need for trolley transportation than do great stretches of the west and south where cities lie far apart.

Last but not least among the important modes of transportation to be found in Pennsylvania come buses and commercial freight vehicles. Strictly a twentieth century development, the rapid growth of these carriers has been phenomenal. Today there are over 6000 buses operating in this State, and between 6000 and 7500 truck operators hold certificates of public convenience and necessity.

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No. 27

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STATE PLANNING BOARD

928 North Third Street

Reference
F. A. Pitkin
Director
Tel: Harrisburg-5151-Ext.767

RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, MAY 12, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Water Transportation

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by: F. A. Pitkin, Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

A hundred years ago Pennsylvanians were excited over the wonderful new canals which, together with the deeper rivers, were going to make it possible for them to travel and to ship their goods by water much more rapidly and cheaply than they could by rough and expensive toll roads. But the activity of the canals was short-lived. The newly born railroads soon took away nearly all their business, and today the State has over 150 miles of old canals that either are abandoned or are used only by occasional pleasure parties.

Her rivers, too, are comparatively little used. For more than 450 miles altogether, the Allegheny, the Monongahela, the Ohio, and the Delaware run deep and wide and smooth enough to carry traffic safely, but where once steamboats and barges plied a busy trade there runs today only an occasional boat. In 1931 Pennsylvania's inland waterways carried only 23,124,264 tons

of freight and practically no passengers. The central part of the State has no rivers or canals that permit water transportation, for the Susquehanna, long and wide as it is, is too shallow to be navigable except in short, isolated sections.

In some ways it is unfortunate that the State's industries use her waterways so little for their freight, because shipping goods by water is more economical, though slower, than by railway or motor truck.

For foreign and coastwise shipping, Pennsylvania has two ports: Philadelphia and Erie. To reach the ocean, boats from Philadelphia must go over a hundred miles through Delaware River and Delaware Bay, while those from Erie, which is primarily a lake port, must travel nearly a thousand miles through the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River. For this reason neither of these cities can compete seriously for trans-Atlantic passenger travel or shipping with such ocean ports as New York or Boston. For shipping freight along the coast and through the lakes, however, they are becoming increasingly popular, and both have a larger volume of commerce now than they had in 1929, despite the recent business depression

EMcK - MB - 4/27/37

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Contrast of Air and Pipe Transportation

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by: F. A. Pitkin, Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

Aviation has grown to be something much more than just a romanti· affair of stunt flights and barnstorming. It has developed into a metho ically planned means of transportation, with regular routes, stops, time tables, and schedules of rates and fares, similar to the railroads. All of its carefully planned systems, however, cannot disguise the fact that aviation is a new and exciting way of travel. It is still in many ways an unknown quantity that may some day become a serious rival of the present more common means of transportation.

There are six main airways crossing Pennsylvania, besides that from Washington to Newark which serves Philadelphia indirectly by way of the airport at Camden, N. J. All these air routes, which are maintained by the Federal and the State governments, are served by commercial air transport companies carrying passengers and packages. All have beacon lights and emergency landing fields along the way to make them safer for

flying by night or day. One air line, working together with automobile express services, makes overnight deliveries between Philadelphia and the Pacific Coast.

The number of aircraft and pilots in the State is still comparatively small, but it is increasing fairly steadily. Pilots and planes must pass Federal requirements before they are allowed to fly. Today Pennsylvania has 153 airports, 542 licensed aircraft, and 812 licensed pilots.

So far the commercial air lines, which are designed chiefly for traveling long distances between states, provide little service for those who wish to go from one point to another within Pennsylvania.

In contrast with the air lines are the pipe lines. Many may not realize that there are nearly ten thousand miles of pipe line, most of which is underground, carrying annually almost fifty million barrels of petroleum to the refineries from oil fields both inside and outside the State. More than a dozen different companies are operating this type of transportation line.

It is possible that this same method of shipment may soon be adopted by some of the bituminous coal operators, who are considering the plan of sending pulverized coal directly from the mines to consuming centers through high pressure pipe lines.

EMcK - MB - 4/27/37

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, MAY 26, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Highway Transportation

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by: F. A. Pitkin, Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

The most widespread of all Pennsylvania's forms of transportation is that by automobile, truck, and bus over her streets and highways. The great majority of towns and county districts are without air or water transportation or electric railways. Many are far removed from the nearest railroad station or steam rail line. But almost none, in these days of modern highways, is too small or too remote to be reached by automobile.

For every square mile of the State's area there are more than two and a quarter miles of highway. This is nearly three times as much per square mile as is to be found in the United States as a whole. Altogether the State has over 103,000 miles of improved and unimproved State highways, rural roads, and city streets.

For every mile of these highways, there are eighteen motor vehicle

or nearly two million in all. Almost a quarter million of these are commercial trucks and tractors, not quite six thousand are buses, and the remainder (more than a million and a half) are private passenger cars.

Until less than a century ago, most of Pennsylvania's roads, except local ones were built by private companies, which charged toll to those who travelled over them. When bicycles became popular in the 1890's, there developed a wide public demand for better roads; and with the coming of the automobile good roads became essential. The present huge system of highways built and managed by the State is hardly twenty-five years old.

Since 1928 the State Highway Department has been trying to improve not only the road surfaces themselves but also the sides of the roads. Trees, grass, shrubs, and vines have been planted on roadside cuts and slopes to keep the soil from washing away and covering or undermining the road. These, together with rows of evergreens planted close to the roads at certain points to keep the snow from drifting, are reducing tremendously the cost of keeping roads in good condition the year around.

EMcK - MB - 4/28/37

Weekly Series Release
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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Highway Dangers

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by: F. A. Pitkin, Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

Travel by automobile is still far more dangerous than it should be. Approximately one out of every 39 cars in the State is involved in an accident every year, and one out of every 214 Pennsylvanians is injured by an automobile. Cars collide with each other. They run down pedestrians. They hit telephone poles and walls. Almost all of these accidents could be avoided if drivers would exercise ordinary good manners, obey the traffic rules, keep awake, and keep their minds on what they are doing.

The chief causes of motor accidents are: driving too fast, driving or parking on the wrong side of the road, forcing other cars off the highway, attempting to cross main highways without stopping first, and cutting in and out of traffic in crowded lines. Sometimes accidents are due to "blind spots" and other dangers in the road, or to sudden failure of the automobile itself such as a blowout or a broken steering gear; but in the great majority of

cases, they are caused by the carelessness of human beings.

The engineers who design highways are constantly trying in building new roads to eliminate dangers which lead to accidents. They are trimming trees that prevent drivers from getting a clear view of the road. They are straightening roads to take out sharp curves. They are widening and "banking" other curves to keep speeding wheels from leaving the road on turns. They are obtaining wider rights-of-way for roads wherever possible. They are trying to prevent the erection of signs and other obstructions at dangerous points.

Most of Pennsylvania's present highways were built to accommodate passenger cars and trucks of moderate size and weight. Extremely large and heavy trucks add greatly to the dangers of public travel, for they move below the normal rate of speed and obstruct other drivers' view of the road. There are two possible methods of overcoming this serious hazard. One is to deny use of the public roads to all vehicles over a certain size and weight, and the other is to build future highways wide enough and strong enough to accommodate these mammoth vehicles.

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Duplication of Transportation Services

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by: F. A. Pitkin, Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

Recently in this column, we have discussed transportation services available to the public in Pennsylvania, revealing the enormous network of communications that permits us to go here and there by land, water and air. The State has more than 100,000 miles of highways, streets and railways.

However, we cannot escape the fact that there is much uneconomic duplication of services among the various public carriers that deserves attention both in the interests of these carriers and the public.

When people live together in a community, they do not all try to do the same work. If everyone were determined to be a baker while nobody made shoes, the market would be overloaded with bread and cakes but the citizens would go barefoot. By dividing up the work, however, so that each person does the thing he can do best, or the thing into which fate leads him, the community life is enabled to run smoothly.

Very much the same thing is true of Pennsylvania's numerous transportation systems. At present we have several different types of public carrier all trying to do the same work, with the result that some of them are finding business extremely poor. Many authorities on traffic say that the only way to bring efficiency to the transportation business is for steam railroads, electric railways, steamship lines, air lines, motor trucks, and motor buses to agree on a plan by which each gives only the type of service which it can do best and most economically.

Under such a plan, many wasteful duplications could be done away with, and new types of "coordinated" transportation service could be worked out. If railroads and motor trucks, for example, could work together to supplement each other's services instead of competing in the same fields, the handling of freight could be much improved.

Pennsylvania has a Public Utilities Commission, appointed by the Governor, with the power to supervise and regulate all public service transportation agencies. Upon this commission rests much of the responsibility for making Pennsylvania's complicated transportation systems more economical and more efficient.

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Weekly Series Release
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STATE PLANNING BOARD

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16, 1937

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Is Decentralization in Sight?

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by: F. A. Pitkin, Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

Pennsylvania has many resources, but none is quite so mysterious or so powerful as electricity. Unseen, this super-servant of modern man gives us light and heat and power. It brings music out of the air, causes pictures to move before us on a screen as if they were alive, permits us to talk to friends thousands of miles away.

Most of us, using electricity for a dozen daily purposes and taking its marvels for granted, do not realize how completely it may change our old world into a new one. This, you may say, it has already done. But one great change it may bring about in the next century will be more important than all the lights, telephones, moving pictures, and labor-saving devices it has yet given us. The name of this sweeping change, which seems bound to affect profoundly the future of Pennsylvania and every other state, is decentralization.

Pennsylvania and the United States grew to maturity at a time when all over the Western World people were leaving the open country and crowding closer together in cities in order to work at machines driven by steam or by water power. Power could not be carried to the people, so the people had to come to power. As a result, city streets, houses, schools and jails became overcrowded, and city air became smoky; while many city dwellers wished hopelessly that they might find a way to earn their livings in less crowded surroundings and purer air.

Electricity has made it possible for that wish to come true. Electrical energy may be carried for hundreds of miles. This means that manufacturing and labor-saving machines can be operated wherever electric lines are built, so that Pennsylvanians, instead of living crowded together in a few big city districts, may eventually spread out more evenly all over the State. Living and manufacturing in the country will be just as easy as in the city. In the last few years there have been indications of this trend.

If this happens, it will bring tremendous changes in living and working conditions, health, security, government, buying and selling, transportation, and all the rest. Like all great changes, it will occur slowly; but with the help of electric power, it is both possible and probable. In subsequent articles, the amount of electricity used in the state, how it is made and distributed will be discussed.

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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

STATE PLANNING BOARD

928 North Third Street

Reference
F. A. Pitkin
Director
Tel: Harrisburg - 5151 - Ext. 767

RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Consumption of Electricity

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by: F. A. Pitkin, Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

Consumption of electric power has been increasing steadily in Pennsylvania, even during the depression years. The unit of measuring electric power is the watt. One watt used for 1000 hours is called one kilowatt hour (KWH). Pennsylvania uses over 13,000,000,000 kilowatt hours in a year, as much as would be consumed if every Pennsylvanian, from the tiniest baby up, turned on four electric lights of average size (40 watts) on the morning of January 1st and let them burn without ceasing, day and night, until midnight of December 31st.

Actually, of course, electric power consumption is not divided so evenly as that. Nearly one-fourth of the families in the State have no electric service, and only about one-sixth of the State's electric power is used by private families; the rest is consumed by industries and businesses of all kinds and in the lighting of streets.

Perhaps the most amazing thing about Pennsylvania's use of electricity is the rate at which it has increased. More than ten times as many homes were equipped with electricity in 1930 as in 1914, and these homes were using nearly twenty-five times as much power. During the same period, factories and other industries increased their use of electricity over 800 per cent, so that now nearly all of their machines are electrically driven.

Electrical energy can be generated in a number of ways. The most common of these are by buring coal and by using water power. In some sections of the United States, tremendous dams or natural waterfalls provide all the electric power that is needed, but in Pennsylvania the water power sites thus far developed are only sufficient to fill about one-ninth of the state's electrical needs. It takes about a pound and a half of coal, to generate one kilowatt hour of electrical energy or enough to keep one 40-watt light burning 25 hours.

It is common in some parts of the country for city governments to operate electric plants for lighting street at cost and for selling power to citizens without profit. Pennsylvania has 38 municipal plants (some furnishing power for street lighting only), but most of the large electric companies in the State are privately owned and operated for profit. A few large industries generate their own electric power.

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928 North Third Street

Reference
F. A. Pitkin
Director
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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, June 30, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

The Cost of Electricity

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by: F. A. Pitkin, Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

It is not easy to arrive at a fair decision as to how much the electric companies should be allowed to charge their customers for service. To the family which is just enjoying for the first time the convenience and ease of lighting and cooking by electricity, no price may seem too high. This, however, would not be an accurate yardstick by which to measure value.

A fairerway, and the way used, is to find out how much it costs to generate and distribute electrical energy, and then to charge the customer this amount plus a certain percentage for profit to the electric company. In Pennsylvania the average cost to the electric companies of producing one kilowatt hour is from 1 to 1-1/2 cents at the power station. To this must be added distribution costs. The average present charge to

domestic consumers is about 5 cents per kilowatt hour. The big industries which use electricity in large quantities do not have to pay nearly so high a rate as do families. The average cost to industry is 1-1/2 cents a kilowatt hour.

There is no doubt that it costs the electric companies proportinately less to supply large quantities of power than small, just as it costs the grocer no more to send his delivery truck around to one home with twenty-five pounds of sugar than with five. The present difference between the two types of rates, however, seems to many to be far greater than is necessary. In 1932, for instance, private homes used only 15 per cent of all the electric power sold in the State, but they paid 34 per cent of the total bill; while industrial consumers used 59 per cent and paid only 35 per cent.

Only about 46,000 farms, or a little more than one-fourth of all those in the State, are now equipped with electricity. The great majority of farmers and rural dwellers are without it because there are no electric plants in their neighborhoods, or they cannot afford to install the service. Before they can all be served, nearly 30,000 miles of new electric lines will have to be built. Unless a way can be found to reduce the high cost of construction, many farmers will have to remain without electric service for a long time.

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STATE PLANNING BOARD

928 North Third Street

Reference
F. A. Pitkin
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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, JULY 7, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Modern Education

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by: F. A. Pitkin, Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

Though this is the season for "time out" on school books and other implements of learning, it may not be inappropriate for a review of the State's educational system if we are to keep up with the frequent changes and progressive ideas being adopted to meet modern demands.

More than one-fifth of all Pennsylvanians are pupils or students in school or college. The great majority are in the 12,000 or more public schools, which had an enrollment of 1,994,022 boys and girls in 1934. The others are in private schools, colleges, or normal schools. The State has 54 recognized colleges and 16 normal schools.

For over a century the State has had free public schools for all children. During these hundred years many of the schools have developed into large modern institutions with widely varied programs. Others have in some respects advanced little beyond their pioneer ancestors, for even

in this age of consolidations made possible by good roads and motor buses, there are still more than 6,000 one-room schoolhouses in Pennsylvania.

Boys and girls now go to public school not only to study the common school subjects, but also to get training in art, in music, in stenography, in agriculture, in home economics, in care of the health, and in many other branches that serve as good preparation for citizenship.

It is possible that the schools of a hundred years hence will be as different from those of today as they are from the first public schools of 1834, which taught little beyond "the three Rs." Schools are constantly changing to meet the changing needs of society. Many more children will remain in school until they are eighteen or twenty. This will mean wide changes in the courses offered.

Many modern schools are tying up their work more and more closely with life itself. In the more progressive institutions children are taught by actually doing things, rather than by merely reading and writing about them. English, arithmetic, and geography are not isolated but all are taught and used together as they are in the actual process of living. Boys and girls are given opportunity to learn to do the things for which they are best fitted.

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No. 36

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STATE PLANNING BOARD

928 North Third Street

Reference
F.A. Pitkin
Director
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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION Wednesday, July 14, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

More Pupils in Higher Grades

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by
F.A. Pitkin, Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

Formerly it was taken for granted that the largest number of school children would be in the lower grades. There were two chief reasons for this: many children left school at an early age to go to work, and less care was given to child health than is given today, with the result that there were many more deaths than there are now among children of school age.

It is still true that the greatest number of children are in the lower grades, but this situation is changing rapidly. Enrollment in the first, second, and third grades of the State's public schools dropped from 644,000 in 1924 to 558,000 in 1934. At the same time enrollment in the four high school grades rose from 214,000 to 326,000. This change is because fewer children are being born and fewer are dying,and also because it is much less common now than formerly for children to leave school to go to work.

Because of the decreasing birth rate, Pennsylvania's total school enrollment probably will gradually become smaller than it is now during the next few years, even though a much larger proportion of children stay in school through the higher grades. Indications are that enrollment in the lower grades will continue to decline steadily in keeping with the birth rate, while high school enrollments will continue to gain until about 19[illegible] or 1940, after which they too will begin to decrease gradually.

People nowadays are realizing more and more that additional educatio[illegible] is useful. Through classes for adults the number of people in Pennsylvani[illegible] who cannot read and write is gradually being reduced although there are still parts of the State where one person out of every twelve is illiterate.

Among Pennsylvania's school children are many thousands who are handi[illegible] capped by blindness, deafness, crippled bodies, speech defects, or weak hearts. Some of the larger school districts are able to provide special education for these, as well as for those whose minds are not normal. In the smaller school districts special classes are not possible, and handicapped children have to be sent for training (at the school district's expense) to institutions elsewhere in the State.

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WEEKLY SERIES RELEASE
No. 37

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

STATE PLANNING BOARD

928 North Third Street

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F. A. Pitkin
Director
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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, JULY 21, 1937

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

More Public Libraries Needed

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by
F. A. Pitkin, Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board

Proud as we may be of our educational system so far as public schools and higher institutions of learning are concerned, we must admit that the State is sadly lacking in one highly important source of education. A survey by the staff of the State Planning Board brings to public notice a serious deficiency in public libraries, which is not confined simply to the rural districts.

Libraries are not merely places to get the latest popular novel or to read the magazines. They are universities which offer courses in hundreds of subjects to persons who know how to teach themselves. They are valuable storehouses of information for those who want to learn as much as possible about the world in which they live.

Many Pennsylvanians have practically no access to these benefits,

however, for they live in sections without public libraries. The State's country districts and small towns have almost no library service except that occasionally made available through the Extension Division of the State Library. Even among the cities and towns of more than 5000 population, almost half are without libraries. A few counties have their own traveling libraries for the distribution of books through rural districts.

The years of depression, providing more leisure time and less money to spend, caused more and more people to turn to libraries for recreation and education. Pennsylvania libraries circulated 19,000,000 books in 1933 as compared with 11,000,000 ten years before. Between 1929 and 1933 the demand for library books rose 24 per cent.

The libraries are finding it extremely difficult to fill this demand, since they have only about three-quarters as much annual income as they had in 1929. Therefore, many libraries are not able to buy new books or to replace the old ones as they wear out.

There is no better or cheaper way of providing education and recreation to large numbers of Pennsylvanians, both adults and children, than through public libraries. Any plans for Pennsylvania's future should include the establishment of more libraries, particularly in country districts, as well as the provision of better public financial support to those now in existence.

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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

STATE PLANNING BOARD

928 North Third Street

Reference
F. A. Pitkin
Director
Tel: Harrisburg-5151-Ext. 767

RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION Wednesday, July 28, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Our Abused Forests

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by
F. A. Pitkin, Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

When William Penn and his settlers came to Pennsylvania, the whole colony was one vast forest. Thick, terrifying, and filled with wild animals, the forest seemed to the colonists an enemy that must be conquered before they could plant their crops and build their towns. For that reason, they set to work to chop down the trees as quickly as possible, and their descendants followed the same plan for nearly two centuries. So endless did the supply of wood seem that they did not even feel it necessary to make use of all the lumber that they felled. Forest fires resulting from lumbermen's carelessness destroyed millions of precious trees.

Not till near the end of the nineteenth century did Pennsylvanians begin to realize that forests are not so easy to replace as they are to destroy. Men and women are dependent in hundreds of ways on forests and their products, but usually they do not fully learn this until the trees

have almost disappeared.

About half of Pennsylvania's 28,000,000 acres is still covered with trees and brush. A great part of this land has been so burned and cut over that it is hardly worthy of the name of forest. Much, however, is planted with young and vigorous trees, for modern Pennsylvanians are wisely attempting to restore some of the earlier glory and value of "Penn's Wood."

Seventy-five years ago this State produced more lumber than any other state in the Union. Now it stands only twenty-second on the list because the best of the great woods were recklessly used up without planning for the future. Many other states have made this same mistake and are now regretting it.

Forests not only furnish lumber for building construction for fuel, for making paper, and for countless other uses; they also protect water supplies and provide the means for many of man's cheapest and pleasantest forms of recreation. Wood has one tremendous advantage over metal and stone for building, and over coal, oil, and gas for fuel: it is the only material that can be replenished. Growing trees is a long slow task, but at least it can be done. When mineral supplies are exhausted, however, man will have no way of replacing them.

EMCK - MB

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928 North Third Street

Reference
F. A. Pitkin
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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Forests and Recreation

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by
F.A. Pitkin, Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

The growing of trees for lumber is important, but in recent years the use of forests for recreation has become of almost equal importance. It is an interesting thing that forests, which men once considered their enemies, should now have become their refuge from civilization. It seems that the more tied to the cities men grow by the necessity of earning a living, the more eager they are to spend their spare time in hunting, fishing, camping, and outdoor life, as their ancestors did.

Forests serve several purposes at once. While they are growing and producing timber, they also protect water supplies, help to control erosion, serve as breeding places and shelters for game, and provide recreation for men, women, and children.

Pennsylvania, having exhausted her finest forests, now uses more than twice as much lumber as she grows. This means that we must buy wood grown in other sections, chiefly the northwestern and southern states.

Naturally, lumber that is shipped long distances costs more than that which is grown nearby. It would cost Pennsylvania less in the long run to plant new forest trees than to pay the high freight rates on lumber from far away.

If Pennsylvania used wood as economically as do such European countries as England and France, she could get along on her present homegrown wood supply, for the State still produces about 39 cubic feet of wood a year for each inhabitant, which is nearly twice the per capita wood consumption of England and fifty per cent more than that of France. More than twice this much, or 89 cubic feet for each inhabitant, is actually used in Pennsylvania, however. This means that Pennsylvania's per capita wood consumption is more than four times as much as England's and three times that of France.

The United States as a whole uses wood even more rashly than does Pennsylvania, at the rate of 134 cubic feet a year for each person. Pennsylvanians and other Americans have not yet recovered, apparently, from the pioneers' idea that the wood is inexhaustible.

Paper manufacturing and building construction are outstanding among the Pennsylvania industries dependent upon wood. Wood is also used in large quantities for boxes, barrels, caskets, furniture, charcoal, wood alcohol, and mine timbers, and for numerous other purposes. The future existence of all these industries will be much more secure when Pennsylvania's reforestation program has reached the point where their supply of raw materials can be secured from within the State.

Weekly Series Release
No. 40

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

STATE PLANNING BOARD

928 North Third Street

Reference
F. A. Pitkin
Director
Tel: Harrisburg-5151-Ext. 767

RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Growing a Forest

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by
F. A. Pitkin, Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

There is perhaps no crop of the earth that has been so neglected as trees. Recently in this column, it was pointed out that Pennsylvania once produced more timber than any other state while now it ranks twenty-second in this respect and is largely dependent upon other states for a wood supply.

We must now grow forests, and the time that it takes a tree to mature is pertinent to the discussion since it is much simpler to destroy than to raise a tree. This fact should give pause to home owners who may be tempted to remove an elm or maple that affords too much shade for a healthy lawn!

In Pennsylvania a forest tree requires from three to five years to grow a single inch in diameter. Thirty to forty years are needed to grow wood for fence posts, 40 to 60 years for telephone poles or railroad ties, and 50 to 100 or even more years for the fine quality timber used for

building houses or making furniture.

For trees to reach their full growth and usefulness is a process so slow that very few private citizens can be expected to undertake it. The Federal, State, and county governments, however, can afford to plan far ahead for the welfare of their present and future citizens, and so it seems desirable for them to own and manage forests on a large scale. Abandoned farms that have become county property because of the owners' failure to pay taxes are often particularly suited to this purpose. Large corporations which depend on lumber and on pure water supplies would also benefit by planting their own forests to meet future needs.

To plan the planting of new forests to replace those which are gone requires thinking in terms of large figures. The reforestation of a million acres of what is now practically useless ground would involve the planting of 60,000,000 trees a year for twenty years. To do this, large scale nuseries for seedling trees would have to be developed. Well planned forests should be large enough to have trees of all sizes, from seedlings to mature timber. In this way forests can be operated very much like farms, and a crop of lumber can be produced each year without spoiling the forest for the future.

The work of the Civilian Conservation Corps under the national government has helped tremendously in the development and improvement of Pennsylvania's forests.

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Harrisburg, Pa.

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

More parks Needed

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

Pennsylvania has over 42,500 acres of public parks owned by local, State and Federal governments. This may sound like a great deal, but when divided among 9,631,350 people, it is very little. In fact, if all the residents of Pennsylvania tried to make use of this public park space at one time, there would be a plot less than ten feet wide by twenty feet long available for each person.

The State parks, which make up more than half of this park area, are for the most part not accessible to the very people who need them most - the residents of crowded city sections. This is because most of our State parks have been established on land which was very low in price due to its distance from centers of population. More parks are needed within easy dis-

tance of the larger population centers. Automobiles and good roads are increasing the use of the State parks all the time, however, so that now they are visited annually by from three or four million people (equal to more than one-third of the State's population), while as recently as 1923 they had only half a million visitors a year. In addition to its parks, the State allows the public to make use of most of its forests and game lands. This makes it possible for thousands of Pennsylvanians to enjoy hunting and fishing in Penn's Woods, as their ancestors did, except that modern hunters and fishermen must pay the State a license fee before using gun or rod and must hunt or fish only within the periods allowed by law.

There are good reasons for these restrictions. Forty years ago the State's fish and wild animals were disappearing as rapidly as were her forests. Greedy hunters and fishermen thought only of their immediate catch, without considering the need of conserving for the future. Only by passing laws prohibiting wholesale slaughter, by establishing State game refuges for the protection and breeding of animals, and by raising game for restocking depleted areas was it possible to keep the State's wild life from being wiped out.

To pay for this conservation program, it was necessary to charge anybody who wished to hunt or fish an annual fee for a license. Few sportsmen grudge the payment of this fee, for because of it Pennsylvania is now once again the home of great quantities of deer, rabbits, squirrels, raccoons, pheasants, wild turkeys, grouse, and even bears.

EMcK - CM

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928 North Third Street
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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Our Water Supplies

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

Most of us may think of water supply in terms of its use by private families in the kitchen and bathroom. But Pennsylvania's industries use more water than all her private homes put together. Between two and three billion gallons are used every day of the year by coal mines, railroads, industrial plants, and generators of electric power. To supply and safeguard these great quantities of water and to prevent communities and industries from encroaching on each other's rights are important concerns of the State and local governments.

For the last fifty years Pennsylvania has had an average annual rainfall of more than forty-two inches for all parts of the State. Rain is absorbed by the soil to some extent, serving to replenish the underground water. These underground supplies furnish the water for wells and springs, and most of the water used by growing vegetation. A portion of this underground water eventually drains into the creeks and rivers. The rain

which is not absorbed by the soil, or lost in evaporation, flows directly into the creeks and rivers. About one half of the total rain fall is used by vegetation and evaporation, and the remainder drains into the streams from which men draw most of their water supplies.

In years when much less than the average amount of rain falls, we suffer from drought, or an inadequate supply of water. The growth of crops is affected unfavorably, and sometimes wells and streams dry up, rivers run dangerously low, forests and animals suffer, and human beings must cut their use of water far below normal. Fortunately, Pennsylvania does not have serious droughts nearly so often as do the midwestern states. But droughts do occur frequently enough to make it necessary to plan how to meet them intelligently.

If Pennsylvanians did not use artificial means to store up the flow of their rivers and streams, they would suffer repeatedly from water shortage, for the average stream is not constantly dependable. Storage reservoirs multiply many times the value of rivers and creeks. A stream that, undammed, could furnish in dry seasons only enough water for a town of 3,200 inhabitants, can be regulated by a storage reservoir so that it will provide a steady water supply for a city of 100,000 people.

This State has nearly 900 large water storage reservoirs, with a total capacity of 238 billion gallons. Two of these reservoirs, Lake Wallenpaupack in the northeastern part of the State and Pymatuning Reservoir in the northwestern, are larger than any of Pennsylvania's natural lakes. Lake Wallenpaupack, with a surface area of nine square miles, has a water capacity of seventy billion gallons. Pymatuning Reservoir, shallower than Wallenpaupack, has a slightly smaller capacity, although its surface area is almost three times as great.

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

How Can We Control Floods?

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State
Planning Board.

Anyone who has lived near a usually docile river or creek made unruly and destructive through heavy rains or sudden thaws knows of the overwhelming menace of flood waters. Every few years Pennsylvania's swollen streams cause serious damage to lives and property.

Modern engineering science has devised methods of preventing flood damage, but as yet few communities have put them into effect. Storage basins can be constructed to divert and retard abnormally high waters. Channels can be deepened and improved. Protective embankments and levees can be built. Obstructions that encroach upon the channel so as to increase the height of the water can be removed. A recent State law, in fact, makes it illegal for anyone to construct

such obstructions without a State permit.

But all of these measures look only in the one direction of controlling the waters and keeping them away from human habitation and property. At best they can give no positive assurance of a one hundred percent safety against flood damage; levees may break, straightened channels may even increase flood hazards for communities further downstream, auxilliary flood reservoirs may not hold enough to sufficiently lower the crests of floods. Yet, people, placing too great a confidence in visible flood control structures, may feel encouraged to still further expose themselves and thus further aggravate the public cost of flood damages.

There is another and surer remedy against flood damage: to keep people and property out of the paths of floods. This simple alternative, strange to say, seems not to have been given anything like the attention it deserves. If floods seem more devastating today than a decade or a century ago it may be because there was then less for floods to destroy.

Flood plains may be zoned against residential uses in their most exposed areas. Nonconforming uses can be recorded in such fashion as will discourage the further transfer of flood endangered land.

It is true that people moved out of flood hazard land need to be accommodated elsewhere. It is probable that they will have to be reimbursed for lands removed from year-round occupancy. This, it can be easily seen, must cost a lot of money. But will it cost more than flood damage costs? Will it cost more than flood control?

This does not mean that flood plains need to be abandoned to return to a state of wasteland. They can be zoned to other uses; reforestation, recreation, orcharding, and even to modified farming and dairy uses, supplemented with insurance. Fortunately there are few flood plain regions

in Pennsylvania where the population pressure is so great as to necessitate resort to flood endangered land to provide for residence. Industrial use has a stronger claim on riverside location. But even in the case of industrial use restriction should be put upon the location of oil tanks or other structures of a nature to aggravate flood damage.

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Water and Its Dangers

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by
F. A. Pitkin, Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

Essential though water is to life, it can also be the agent of death and disease. When polluted by dirt, filth, sewage or industrial waste it becomes, unless treated, dangerous for drinking and even for bathing.

In the early part of this century Pennsylvania had a steady succession of epidemics caused by contamination of water supplies. Thousands of deaths from typhoid fever occurred every year. Thirty years ago the State Department of Health was established to fight this danger, and through its efforts and those of local boards of health sanitary conditions have been so improved that typhoid fever is now rare. To prevent further disease, however, requires constant supervision of water supplies and sewage disposal.

There are various ways in which water supplies become polluted. People living in the country or in small towns may have their wells or springs contaminated by ground drainage or nearby cesspools. Towns and cities may drain sewage into passing streams without treating it to make it harmless. Coal mines use great quantities of running water in their operation, leaving the streams that drain their mines blackened and poisoned for many miles with mine waste. Leather tanners, paper manufacturers, and all kinds of mills using dyes and chemicals use the rivers as a cheap and easy way of carrying off their waste products.

In unsettled country, with forest trees overhead and clean stones underneath, running water remains comparatively pure and safe and even cleanses itself of occasional impurities. But in built-up sections a polluted stream carries its dangers with it for long distances, so that many towns or counties or even states may suffer from the carelessness of a single industry or community. For this reason Pennsylvania has made agreements with a number of nearby states for the safeguarding of mutual water supplies.

Fortunately modern science makes it possible for even the dirtiest water to be made clean. By filtration and chemical treatment polluted streams may be transformed into safe drinking water, although people naturally prefer to use water that does not require too much artificial treatment to make it fit for consumption.

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Protecting Our Water Supplies

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania
State Planning Board.

The provision of pure water supplies is now regarded as a public responsibility, and no water company is allowed to sell its product to the public without the State Department of Health's approval of its source of supply and its purification methods. Not only must the water meet standard purity requirements, but the storage reservoirs must be carefully protected so that further contamination will not be allowed to creep in.

Virtually every community of more than a thousand inhabitants is served by a water works. More than four-fifths of Pennsylvania's inhabitants now receive purified water. The remainder depend upon private wells and springs. Although these private water supplies are all located in the country, where water should be purer than in crowded city sections,

they are actually less safe than the purified public water supplies of the cities. The State Department of Health is now trying to make private water supplies safer by offering to inspect wells, and to give suggestions on how they may be safeguarded.

If sewage is allowed to accumulate near dwelling houses in gutters, privies and cesspools, it is a serious menace to health. It is also dangerous if allowed to drain into a passing stream without first being treated to remove harmful matter.

The safe way to dispose of sewage, if public health is to be protected, is to drain or pump it from each house and building through underground sewer pipes to a central sewage disposal plant, where it is carefully treated to remove solids and destroy harmful bacteria and then discharged into the river or creek at a point well below the source of the fresh water supply.

Many Pennsylvania communities, including some of the largest cities, have no modern sewerage systems or disposal plants. Several cities of more than 100,000 inhabitants discharge raw sewage into streams at dozens of different points, causing foul odors in the vicinity of the streams.

Sewerage systems, like water works, are often more economical and efficient to construct and manage if several neighboring communities combine to make one large sewerage district with a single plant for treatment and disposal.

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Harrisburg

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Our Mineral Wealth

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania
State Planning Board.

Much of Pennsylvania's wealth lies buried underground. In fact, it is chiefly because of minerals that it is such a famous industrial state. The minerals are not the precious metals, such as gold and silver, but rather, the mineral fuels, coal, oil and gas, upon which men depend for heat and power year in and year out, and the structural materials, clay, slate, stone, cement, sand, and gravel, without which we could not have modern roads and buildings.

Pennsylvania now mines comparatively little iron ore, but because of the rich deposits of coal that underlie miles and miles of her terrain, the State is the home of the nation's iron and steel industries. So much coal is needed in producing iron and steel products that it is

cheaper to take the metal to the fuel.

Although it still leads all other states in mineral industries with one-fourth of all the nation's mineral products to it's credit, this leadership has been weakening. This is partly because many of the best mines, worked for years, are becoming exhausted while other states are developing new ones, and partly because the present system of railroad freight rates favors western and southern at the expense of eastern states.

This falling off of the mineral industries is responsible for a great part of the unemployment and economic distress in the State in the last few years, for Pennsylvania's prosperity in many other fields is dependent upon her coal and iron industries. Railroads, for example, depend upon coal for a major portion of their freight tonnage, while farmers count upon the State's nearly 300,000 miners and their families to buy much of their produce. Naturally, however, unemployed miners are no longer good customers for farm products or for anything else.

Minerals, unlike products of farm and forest, cannot be replaced. Pennsylvania's forests have been almost destroyed, but with replanting and patience they can in time be partially restored. With minerals there is no such possibility.

Geologists predict that our valuable coal and oil resources will be exhausted within about one hundred years. The better iron mines will also be worn out in a century, but some of the poorer iron deposits, which are not now being worked, may be mined again when other states have used up their first grade ores.

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Harrisburg

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Better Mining Methods

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania
State Planning Board.

In the early days of coal and iron mining and oil production in Pennsylvania, the minerals were found near the surface of the ground, and recovering them was comparatively simple. As the more easily reached supplies have been used up, however, men have had to dig deeper and deeper, and to invent new ways of recovering the minerals. The problem now before engineers is to devise even better and more efficient ways of mining in order to postpone the time when Pennsylvania's important mineral supplies will be exhausted.

For years the operators of coal mines, driven on by ruthless competition, have abandoned their mines after removing only the most accessible and richest coal. Oil operators, in their search for new and

larger wells, have overdrilled and allowed much of the natural gas to escape unused. Although these practices have resulted in cheap fuel, which has played a large part in the industrial development of the State, the continuation of such methods will naturally cause the industries to suffer in the future.

Most of the coal remaining in abandoned mines cannot be recovered due to the deterioration of the mine roofs and roof supports. In the anthracite field, the numerous holes opened by bootleg miners offer an outstanding example of wasteful unplanned mining.

The State's residents formerly held the typical pioneers' idea that if they used up their present supply of anything, they could always find a new supply by looking elsewhere. But nowadays geologists, who have studied thoroughly our land and rocks, say it is not probable that any important new mineral deposits will be found within the State. It is estimated that more than ten billion tons of coal have been mined in Pennsylvania, and that over fifty billion tons may still be recovered, - however, much of this is in thin beds, which makes mining difficult and expensive.

The coal for which Pennsylvania is particularly famous is her hard coal, known as anthracite. Anthracite, which burns almost without smoke or soot, is used chiefly for the heating of residences, and where it is important to avoid the dirt and smoke nuisance.

Mines covering nearly 500 square miles in Lackawanna, Luzerne, Carbon, Schuylkill and Northumberland Counties produce more than nine-tenths of all the anthracite in the United States. Their annual production is over sixty million tons. The selling price of anthracite coal is much more than that of bituminous or soft coal, which is used more generally

as a source of power. Bituminous coal mines are much more common than anthracite and are found not only in more than a score of our western counties, but also in many other parts of the United States. Our mines produce nearly a hundred million tons of bituminous coal in a single year.

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1937

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Changes Affecting Coal

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania
State Planning Board.

Once wood was almost the only commonly used form of fuel, while men harnessed the wind and water to obtain power for industry. After coal was discovered, it not only largely took the place of wood for fuel but also generally supplanted water and wind as sources of power.

Now, however, other fuels and sources of power, such as fuel oil, coke, gas, and electricity generated by water (known as hydro-electric power) are arising to dispute the supremacy of coal. For this reason, as well as because of the general industrial depression, many of Pennsylvania's coal mines have been shut down or have been operating only a small portion of the time in recent years.

The exhaustion of the more easily reached deposits of coal has made mining more costly and frequently more dangerous than it used to be, for as the miners dig deeper into the ground, the difficulty of bringing

the coal to the surface increases, and more elaborate and expensive equipment and safety devices are required.

At the same time, however, a number of new devices have made the use of coal more efficient and more economical. Methods have been developed to use coal dust and the smallest sizes of coal which formerly were wasted. Automatic stokers and ash removers are making it possible for furnaces to be operated almost without human labor, while many new mechanical devices are being used in the mines themselves to cut down increasing production costs.

Though mechanical devices may reduce operating costs, they also tend to reduce the number of men who are employed in the mines. Such inventions, combined with the closing down of many mines and the long slack seasons in others, put more than a hundred thousand Pennsylvania coal miners out of work. There are nearly three hundred thousand coal miners in Pennsylvania, and nearly two-fifths of these were recently unemployed.

Because mining is so completely different from other trades, and mining communities are usually so isolated as to form a little world of their own, it is harder for coal miners to obtain other work when they lose their jobs than it is for almost any other group of persons. Usually they and their families stay on in their old communities even after the mines have shut down.

The future fate of these workless mining villages is a serious problem. Some of them may disappear entirely as their populations gradually drift away. Others may eventually become manufacturing towns. A number of silk and textile mills are now operating in the anthracite regions to employ the families of miners, but the practicability of establishing factories in small bituminous coal mining villages is doubtful.

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F. A. Pitkin
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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

What is Made From Coal?

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania
State Planning Board.

Coal has other values besides its direct use for fuel or for power. Many important products are made from it. In fact new uses are being discovered all the time. For many years practically the only product made from coal was coke. This is a light, porous, smokeless fuel used in the manufacture of iron and steel, and also desirable for household heating. It is made by heating coal and driving off most of its gases and liquids.

For many years it was not realized that the gases and liquids that were wasted in the making of coke from coal by the old methods were nearly as valuable as the coke itself. By means of modern type ovens known as by-product ovens these by-products, worth nearly four dollars for every ton of coke, are now saved and used.

This process is important as the source of most of our cooking and heating gas. Ammonia, tar and dyes are among the other valuable by-products of coal. Before the days of the by-product oven Pennsylvania had practically a monopoly on the coke industry. Now, however, although Pennsylvania coal is still used in the coke ovens, much of it is shipped to manufacturing centers in other states, where by-product plants are being established, in order to have the gas plant near the market.

Gasoline, a fairly recent discovery, has rapidly become one of the most important factors in modern transportation. It is made from petroleum, which, like coal, is taken from under the ground; but unlike coal and most other minerals it is liquid in form instead of solid, and is obtained from wells rather than mines.

The first oil well in the United States was drilled in Pennsylvania in 1859, and all the early oil production of the country was centered in western Pennsylvania. These early oil producers, were not seeking gasoline, for which no use had then been found. What they wanted was kerosene, then used for lighting and heating. Since those early days many other states have discovered oil in much greater quantities than Pennsylvania's, but none of them is equal to Pennsylvania's in quality. Pennsylvania produces only about one-sixtieth of the nation's petroleum, but this contains about eight times as much high grade lubricating oil per barrel as do the average United States petroleums.

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1937

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Prolonging Our Oil Supply

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania
State Planning Board.

In an earlier article, there was pointed out the tremendous importance to the state and nation of Pennsylvania's superior oil production. A present and pressing problem is how to prolong our supply.

Although the best "gusher wells" are practically a thing of the past,-modern oil production relying more and more upon oil recovery by the flooding of partially depleted oil basins,-there still occur dramatic instances of new reservoirs being tapped. One of these instances occurred within the past few months when a "gusher" was brought in near Bradford, Pa., yielding over 4000 barrels the first week. Even where fields seem to have been exhausted, or where the current methods for oil recovery have done their utmost, more than half of the existing

oil remains in the ground awaiting additional refinements in engineering skill for further salvage.

The refining of oil is even more important in Pennsylvania than is its production. Refining is a fascinating and complicated process of heating, cooling, and filtering, by which gasoline, lubricating oil, fuel oil, kerosene, paraffine, naptha, benzine, and other products are separated from the original crude oil. Pennsylvania refines about four times as much oil as she produces, for crude oil is brought in by pipe lines from other states to Pennsylvania refineries.

Oil engineers predict that by the time the country's supply of petroleum is finally exhausted ways will have been developed for making motor fuel from other sources such as coal, shale, and vegetable matter. Many experiments in this field are now being conducted, some of which have been successful on a laboratory scale.

Early oil well drillers were annoyed by a steady flow of gas which seeped from the holes they were digging and interfered with their work. Not until 1883, when they realized that this gas might itself have a valuable use, did they start piping it to nearby cities to be burned for light and fuel. Unlike manufactured gas, which is made from coal through by-product coke ovens, natural gas is ready for use. Its chief defect is that the supply is not always uniform and may fail quite suddenly.

Natural gas fields are scattered thickly in a belt from the south-western corner of Pennsylvania up to McKean and Potter Counties on the north. A new field has recently been developed in Tioga County. The numerous wells in this mountainous strip of the State produce an annual flow of approximately seventy-five billion cubic feet of gas.

It is impossible to prophesy how long Pennsylvania's natural gas supplies will continue. Some geologists say that they will last a hundred years, while other predictions are for a much shorter period.

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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

STATE PLANNING BOARD

928 North Third Street

Harrisburg, Pa.

Reference
F. A. Pitkin
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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Our Building Materials

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

Even houses that are built of wood require the use of many materials that must be quarried from the ground. They must have glass for their windows; stone, brick, or cement for their chimneys, foundations, and sidewalks; porcelain or tile for their bathrooms; asbestos or slate for their roofs; plaster for their walls. Pennsylvania is able not only to fill her own needs for nearly all of these things, but also to ship large quantities of such products as cement, lime, glass, and slate to other localities.

Limestone has the widest use of all Pennsylvania rocks, and the State produces more of it than any other state except Ohio. It is used in the making of cement, plaster, concrete, and glass. Farmers use lime in fer-

tilizing their fields. It also plays an important part in the manufacturing of many products, including paper, metal, glass, leather, and sugar.

Portland cement, made of a special kind of clayey limestone crushed, roasted, and mixed with other materials, is used on a wide scale for building modern concrete highways, streets, and sidewalks, and in the construction of large buildings. Pennsylvania was one of the pioneers in this industry, and still produces almost one-fourth of all the cement in the country. Slate, a brittle rock used in the making of durable fireproof roofs and school blackboards, is found in largerquantities in the Lehigh Valley section than in any other part of the United States. Other kinds of building stone are also quarried in many parts of the State.

From the clay found within her borders this State manufactures annually many million dollars worth of clay products, such as brick, tile, terra cotta, sewer pipe, and refractories (or fire brick). In this field, as in limestone, Pennsylvania ranks second only to Ohio. Modern building construction, emphasizing less solid wall and greater window area, is making more and more use of glass, which is another of the mineral products in which we specialize. In fact we produce about one-fourth of the nation's glass. Glass blowing used to be one of the most highly skilled of trades, but in recent years machines have replaced most of the skilled hand labor in the glass industry.

Weekly Series Release
No. 52

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

STATE PLANNING BOARD

928 North Third Street

Harrisburg

Reference
F. A. Pitkin
Director
Tel: Harrisburg-5151-Ext. 767

RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

A Two Billion Dollar Industry

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

The United States leads the world and Pennsylvania leads the United States in the production of iron and steel, the framework of modern industrialism. Without these metals we would not have automobiles, giant ships, towering buildings, or telephones. Upon their powerful strength these and many other inventions are founded.

When her iron and steel plants were first established the ore was obtained from Pennsylvania's own iron mines. Later, as higher grade western ores were discovered, Pennsylvania's iron mines were abandoned until today only one (at Cornwall, Lebanon County,) is in operation.

There are two main reasons why Pennsylvania has remained the

center of the industry despite the fact that most of the iron ore is now imported: Its abundant supplies of the coal and limestone needed to transform iron ore into pig iron, cast iron, wrought iron, or steel; and its convenience to the most important markets.

There are signs now, however, that the State may lose its marked leadership, for modern methods make it less necessary than formerly for iron and steel plants to be located close to sources of coal. If this happens it will have a serious effect on employment and general prosperity in the State, for the making of iron and steel is by far our leading manufacturing industry, involving an annual business of nearly two billion dollars.

This loss may be partially avoided if we make a serious effort to re-develop our own iron resources through improved methods of mining and production. Just as natural gas, coke's by-products and other minerals once thought valueless have proved to have important uses, so Pennsylvania's "low grade" iron ore may require only new ways of handling to prove itself eventually of real utility. Zinc and lead are the only metals besides iron found in any quantity in Pennsylvania.

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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

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928 North Third Street

Harrisburg

Reference
F. A. Pitkin
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Tel: Harrisburg 5151-Ext. 767

RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1937.

_K_N_O_W_ _Y_O_U_R_ _S_T_A_T_E_

Things to Think About

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania
State Planning Board.

In past months this column has presented what might be called an inventory of Pennsylvania, its human, natural and industrial resources. It would be interesting to know the varying impressions the facts revealed have made on our readers. We hope they have stimulated much good, hard thinking. If definite conclusions have not been reached, a brief review of what has been said, may be helpful to this end.

We have found:

That Pennsylvania's population is ceasing to grow, that fewer children are being born, and that many Pennsylvanians are moving away from

the State in search of work. Are these good omens or bad ones? Will Pennsylvanians be better off if they are fewer in number? Is it likely that the population will ever grow rapidly again? What plans should be made to meet the needs of a stationary or dwindling population? Should people be offered inducements to raise larger families?

That the State has not enough modern dwellings to house all its people at prices they can afford to pay. How can this condition be corrected? How can low-cost houses be built? What is needed in your community?

That many Pennsylvania families have incomes too small for their needs, while one-fortieth of the families in the State receive nearly one-third of all the income. Would it be desirable for wealth to be distributed more equally? Will it ever be possible? How? How does the present distribution of wealth compare with that in pioneer America?

That about one-fourth of all Pennsylvania workers are, or have been recently, unemployed and that modern machinery now does so much of their work that many of them may never be able to find employment in private industry again. Should the government create work for all the unemployed? If not, how shall they be supported? How can machines be used to divide labor more equally and to fill the needs of a greater portion of the population? Would it be wise to use hand labor instead of machines simply to give employment to more people?

These are only a few of the questions raised. Others will be suggested in later articles.

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No. 54

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

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928 North Third Street

Harrisburg

Reference
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Executive Director
Tel: Harrisburg-5151-Ext. 767

RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Where Are We Going?

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania
State Planning Board.

In an earlier article we raised some questions as to the future of Pennsylvania as influenced, among other things, by such representative factors as a slowing down in population growth, a widely varying distributior of wealth, and a need of low-cost housing. These were suggested by revelations made in an inventory of the State by the State Planning Board.

Here is more food for thought. The facts discovered tell us:

That, despite Pennsylvania's splendid progress in the field of education, educational opportunities are much poorer in some sections of the State than in others because small school districts and one-room school houses cannot afford wide choice in studies. Should small school

districts be combined to make larger ones? Would parents have the same interest in a large school ten miles away as in a small one close by?

That as public health methods improve, and Pennsylvanians live longer, they become more subject to the degenerative diseases of old age which can seldom be cured by present methods. How can all the sufferers from degenerative diseases be cared for? Should they be sent to almshouses? Can they be nursed in their own homes? Are new hospitals needed? What provisions does your community make for those incurably ill of cancer, diabetes, heart trouble, and similar ailments?

That Pennsylvania's system of government is overlapping and extremely confusing, and that only about half of the eligible citizens bother to cast their votes. Does popular interest in government affairs increase or decrease as the unit of government becomes larger? Does your community cast more votes in local elections or in national ones? How can general interest in good government be stimulated? What public offices and machinery (if any) should be abolished?

Proper answers to these questions are of vital importance to the future welfare of Pennsylvania's citizens.

EMcK - MB - WOF

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No. 55

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

STATE PLANNING BOARD

928 North Third Street

Harrisburg

Reference
F. A. Pitkin
Executive Director
Tel: Harrisburg 5151 - Ext. 767

RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

What Do You Think?

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

Here are some more impressive facts regarding Pennsylvania as summarized from the results of surveys made by the State Planning Board, along with a few of the pertinent questions that they raise.

We have found:

That Pennsylvania has lost much of her fertile farming soil through erosion, and that many Pennsylvania farmers are losing their property through inability to pay increased taxes. Are individual farmers capable of preventing erosion, or do they need government help? How do European lands which have been cultivated

for hundreds of years retain their fertility? Should some land be withdrawn from farming and be turned into forests and parks? If so, how should it be done?

That most of Pennsylvania's best forests have been destroyed, and that the State now uses more than twice as much wood than it grows. Does it seem probable that Pennsylvania will ever again grow as much wood as she needs? Does your own community still produce lumber for its own use? Should government agencies help to curb tree diseases in privately owned forests? Is the use of State forests as public parks likely to cause forest fires?

That many streams and bodies of water necessary to human and animal life are badly polluted. Should water supplies be publicly or privately owned? On what basis should consumers be charged for the water they use? How can the installation of new water works and sewage disposal systems be paid for? Should industries be restrained from polluting public water supplies? Should this restraint be carried to the extent where certain industries would be forced to go out of business?

That Pennsylvania's most important businesses -- coal, iron, and steel -- in which she has led the world, are decreasing, and that many mining communities are entirely dependent upon relief. Is there any probability that all Pennsylvania's mines will ever run full force again? If not, how will the miners become self-supporting, and who will help them? Could the coal operators solve their problems by charging higher or lower prices for coal or by raising or lowering wages? Would the large-scale construction of modern houses help Pennsylvania's steel industry?

That Pennsylvania is manufacturing a smaller share of the nation's goods than she formerly did. Would it be fair for Pennsylvania to expect always to sell more manufactured products to other countries and states than she buys? What effects do low wages have on the price of manufactured products and on the amount that can be sold? If workers lose their means of support when a factory closes down, can they make and sell the same things themselves on a smaller scale?

If you are a citizen of Pennsylvania, you are under obligation to think out as best you can the answers to these questions. What the majority thinks constitutes public opinion and there can be no intelligent public opinion without correct information and straight thinking.

EMcK - MB - WOF

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928 North Third Street

Harrisburg, Penna.

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F. A. Pitkin
Executive Director
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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, December 1, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Two Sides of the Picture

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania
State Planning Board.

Most of the social and economic trends which have been summarized in this column reveal only the gloomy side of the picture. They make no mention of Pennsylvania's thousands of prosperous farms, of her hundreds of thousands of home owners, of her newly planted forests, of her huge and busy factories, of her fine modern schools and colleges, or her splendid institutions for the unfortunate, nor of all the other things of which any Pennsylvanian can be proud.

This gloomy side of the picture is, however, the one which needs the greater attention, for if its defects are allowed to grow, they will in time spoil the cheerful side as well, just as a few tiny leaks in the roof can, if not mended, ruin all the fine furnishings of a house.

Every Pennsylvanian will have a part in solving some of these challenging problems, for State and community planning can be successful only if they enlist the support of the citizens whose interests are at stake.

Accordingly, let us consider three more facts that invite the serious thought of every citizen of the State.

They are:

That the number of stores and factories is decreasing as the smaller units are being crowded out by larger ones. Do chain stores take money out of the community that patronizes them? If so, where does the money go? Should the small independent merchant be patronized even though he charges higher prices than the larger stores?

That Pennsylvania's vast automobile traffic carries great danger to human life, injuring one out of every 214 Pennsylvanians annually. Would more severe punishment of traffic violations lessen automobile accidents? How can people be taught to drive safely? Should highway safety be a State or a local responsibility? What steps is your community taking to reduce traffic dangers?

That electric power is bringing great changes in Pennsylvania's living and working conditions, that charges are much higher for residential than for industrial service, and that less than one-third of the farms in the State have electricity. Are electric rates higher or lower in communities whose electric plants are publicly owned? What effect will the Federal government's rural electrification program have on Pennsylvania farms? What services now performed by coal, gas, human hands, and other forms of power will probably be taken over by electricity in the next

fifty years? How much control should the government exercise over the electric companies? Why?

These are some of the questions which the citizens of Pennsylvania, who really are Pennsylvania, must answer.

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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

STATE PLANNING BOARD

928 North Third Street

Harrisburg

Reference
F. A. Pitkin
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Tel: Harrisburg 5151 - Ext. 767

RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, December 8, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Agriculture and Game Management

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

It is clear that the future of wildlife in Pennsylvania is going to be vitally affected by the farmer's interest in wildlife production. The trouble he takes to care for wildlife will influence directly the game supply of the future. Fortunately, the State Game Commission is cultivating a better understanding between the land-owning farmer and the sportsmen.

The interspersion of farm and of pasture land offers a combination of food and cover particularly sought after by many wildlife species. Farm game in particular thrives in such surroundings. While farm game birds and animals find unimproved land adapted for shelter and as a hiding place from their natural enemies, their feed is largely to be found

on nearby agricultural land. There, weed seeds, unharvested cereals and the great variety of insects which infest farm fields furnish the necessary food in great abundance.

While submarginal farm areas are usually well adapted for game management purposes, these often will entail considerable expense for development. For woodlot and forest game such as grouse, varying hares and deer, the wild areas are well suited, but it is becoming increasingly evident that there is a place for wildlife management in general agricultural practices. It must not be construed, however, that such activity is a substitute for ordinary farming. Areas where this is practiced are few, and seldom can be made to pay more in wildlife value than in agricultural value.

Small game can be successfully raised by the farmer because he has or can easily and economically provide the three things that are necessary: shelter, food and protection. The food and the cover cannot be too far apart or the game will seek a new home. This is the big advantage of game raising on the farm as over the wilder regions. Again, the farmer at little or no cost can supplement a scarce food supply when winter's severity makes most wild crops inaccessible.

The State Game Commission in recognition of the important part played by the farmer in this connection has devised a plan by which the farmer and the Commission may work cooperatively in providing shelter, food and protection for wildlife. As described by Seth Gordon, executive secretary of the Game Commission, this plan provides that the farmer, in return for leasing the hunting rights on his ground to the Game Commission for a period of five or more years, has a safety zone placed around his buildings, has several little game refuges established on his farm, and the remainder of his land is left open to public hunting under the watchful eye of an officer of the Commission to protect farm property. The farmer is remunerated for any grain he leaves standing for game food, for any

game food he plants, or for raising game for the State or trapping surplus game out of the little sanctuaries when the supply permits. A number of farmers whose lands adjoin are banded together to form one of these farm-game units, of which there are now 21 completed and 12 in the process of completion, comprising an average of 1,000 acres each.

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Motor Accidents And Public Opinion

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

Pennsylvania's 1936 automobile death rate of 23.3 per 100,000 people ranks us below the National average of 29.4, and for this smaller figure in our Keystone State we can well give heartfelt thanks to the many agencies engaged in checking the horrible slaughter of the road.

There are, however, other States, notably Rhode Island with a rate of 16.9, which show far smaller averages, and it is from these States that we should take our inspiration to reduce as much as is humanly possible the tremendous toll of human lives that are needlessly snuffed out each year by automobiles.

A coordination of all our activities might well be the solution to this typically 20th century problem. If so, it would be quite within the functions of the municipal, county and regional planning commissions, as well as the State Planning Board, to serve as the coordinating force.

It is true that the subject of motor accidents is a hackneyed one. Volumes have been written on it and interminable warnings have been sounded by the press and pulpit. Again and again the State Bureau of Motor Vehicles has published a ghastly record of casualties on the highways and, pointing out the more common causes of these, urged both driver and pedestrians to exercise greater care. The good effect of all this has truly been out of proportion to the efforts made.

There is, however, one influence that in the opinion of many has not been brought to bear with sufficient weight and that is that rather illusive thing which we call public opinion. Properly marshalled it is all powerful. It largely dictates our personal behavior in public, in the theatre, and in the restaurant. In a way it fashions our clothes, what we eat, and how much we drink. The one who does not conform to what public opinion holds to be proper is soon shunned.

Let us create a public opinion that will stamp the careless driver as a public nuisance to be despised of men and the thoughtless pedestrian as a stupid individual inviting contempt. Once these menaces realize that they are unpopular with their fellows, a thing apart from the crowd, they will be much more likely to mend their ways than they ever were before. Instead of making light of careless driving and a hero of the one who brags of a record-breaking drive, we should make him feel the embarrasment of one who has made an indecent remark in the company of gentlemen.

As the semi-annual report of the Bureau of Motor Vehicles shows, during the first six months of the present year 1,259 persons were killed in Pennsylvania and 27,195 others injured in accidents involving motor vehicles. Every self-respecting motorist should constitute himself a committee of one to make the dangerous driver unpopular and the stupid pedestrian equally so. To this end planning and civic organizations generally can make a very effective contribution.

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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

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K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

As To Church Membership

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

Perhaps, after all, the city is not so wicked as it has been pictured at times in order to lend thrills to the drama and to adorn an oft told tale. It now appears that in the matter of church associations, at least, urban dwellers have something on their country cousins.

According to the report of its Urbanism Committee to the National Resources Committee, approximately 60 per cent of urban adults are church members as compared with only 50 per cent of the non-urban adult population. This leads the Committee to say:

"Religion, it has been generally assumed, does not thrive in cities,

which have been described by their critics as hotbeds of materialism, rationalism, and skepticism. But, insofar as the facts about churches give us a clue to religious life, this view must be modified.

"The older cities have consistently high church membership rates; the more rapidly growing cities and those with a high proportion of males, relatively low. Denominational distribution varies considerably with the size of the city. Protestant church membership decreases with city size, whereas Roman Catholic and Jewish membership increases. This seems to reflect the preponderant trend to the city of immigrants, who belong for the most part to the latter denominations. The natives and older immigrants, whose ratio is greater in the country, belong predominantly to the Protestant groups whose church affiliation is more voluntary.

"Although only one-seventh of the 211,000 church edifices in the United States are located in urban places, they represent more than half of the four billion dollars invested in church buildings. The average church debt in cities is $20,000 but the average debt per adult member is almost the same in city and country. The average annual expenditure per city church ($14,000) is four times as large as the total United States average. However, the average expenditure per adult member in in city churches is only slightly more than the national average. While rural communities produce more than their proportion of ministers, two-thirds of the rural churches lack resident ministers, something which is not typical of the city church."

However, since it is true that in urban places, there is a much greater range and variety of denominational service than in the country, where people are often unable to find churches of their denomination accessible, there may be less significance in the comparisons made than in the evidence that the majority of Americans maintain some religious affiliation.

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1937.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Rural Planning is Practical

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State
Planning Board.

With the frontier at their back door, with more to do and fewer people to do it, horses and oxen only for land transportation, it is little wonder that our forefathers used the land for the immediate benefits they could realize rather than conserving its fertility for later generations.

But ever since Abraham Lincoln signed the Morrill Act which made possible our system of Land Grant Colleges, the people of the rural districts of the United States have had ever increasing facilities for planning, developing, and improving agriculture and home life. We are

often impressed with some of the farsighted planning of our early forefathers. When we drive along the broad main streets of some of our villages, when we look at the map of the city of Washington, D. C., or think of our great public school system, we must credit them with forethought and vision. Still they did not have the facts and facilities for planning now available and in many ways they could not hope to envisage the needs of the future.

The type of rural planning which prevails in Pennsylvania involves the use of all the expert knowledge and advice available from state and federal agencies, but at the same time it demands the active interest and participation of large numbers of citizens in the formulation of plans.

Speaking of this, a prominent leader in the planning movement said: "This sort of planning comes from the desires and aspirations of the people themselves, seasoned with their common sense, leavened with the judgment of some advisors who are most experienced in state-wide affairs, and at best becomes a part of the warp and woof of our rural life with wearing qualities sufficient to last for many more years." In short, such planning will result in development which is natural and harmonious.

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, January 5, 1938.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Sins Against The Land

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

There is much discussion of our educational system and whether it meets the needs of the day and will prove adequate for the demands of the future.

Frequent suggestions are being made to educators. Here is one: It is that the teachers in our schools early instil in the minds of their pupils that land is our great natural resource; that the wise management of land and its conservation are essential for the survival of any nation. If the youth of today can be made to understand this, we may hope that the

stupidity of past generations may not endure in the new.

The Continental United States contain a little more than 1,900,000,000 acres. This represents the outcome of successive additions and acquisitions since the Colonial days. Approximately one billion acres, or more than half of our entire land surface, were once in the Public Domain. It seemed necessary, for the development of our Nation, that this land be passed into private ownership.

In this process of alienation, many sins were committed against our land. They are still being committed; and the sum total of our mistakes is becoming more glaring from day to day. Millions of acres have been eroded to the point of uselessness. River courses have been silted in; the forest and grass cover of millions of acres has been destroyed; towns and cities or individual structures have been located in wrong places. There has been failure to provide for keeping our water supplies pure; recreation facilities are not adequate; proper protection is not given to species of our native fauna and flora.

To sum it all up, we have been profligate and stupid beyond measure in dealing with our land resources. Because of this, the public conscience is stirring uneasily. Perhaps we shall resolve to do better.

Educators can help greatly by pointing out that physical resources are in themselves of slight value. It is only human intelligence and human knowledge that may put value into these resources. Technical information and a sense of moral values are the keys which alone can unlock the door of the treasure house. It is essential that we do not fail to educate and train our men and women to the point of greatest adequacy and effectiveness. General and vocational training and education, an understanding of economic and social values, and such organization of

local, state and federal governments as would provide the needed safeguards, the best guidance, and the most thoroughgoing coordination of all social efforts are the ideal toward which we should strive. Our strength lies in the soil; our hope, in the land; our salvation, in the upward climb toward the higher peaks of economic and social justice.

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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12, 1938.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Never a Country Like America

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

The good old American slogan "In unity there is strength" appears to be applicable only to deep human aspirations and broad purposes. For our encouragement we are now reminded that hope for the survival of our democracy is to be found largely in the fortunate fact that we are very far from being a homogeneous people. Because of this, we cannot be easily stampeded or led by the nose.

This strange national composition is brought out strikingly in the Urbanism Report of the National Resources Committee. The report points out that never before in the history of the world have great groups of people so diverse in social backgrounds, been thrown together in such close

contact as in the cities of America.

These cities have two-thirds of the population of the country and in the cases of cities of one million or over, the foreign-born and their children make up nearly two-thirds of the inhabitants. In addition to the foreign immigrants and their children, American cities derive their racial and ethnic heterogeneity from the migration of the Negro from the southern rural areas to the larger cities.

Aside from the European immigrants and the Negro our city population contains a sprinkling of other racial groups. When in addition we consider the fact that the European immigrants and their children who constitute so large a portion of the city dwellers, are by no means homogeneous, but comprise a wide variety of ethnic, linguistic, and nationalistic groups, the great diversity of mankind that makes up the American urban world becomes apparent.

The American city, therefore, consists of human beings with the most diverse cultural backgrounds, often speaking different languages, following a great variety of customs, habituated to different modes and standards of living, and sharing only in varying degrees the tastes, the beliefs, and the ideals of their native fellow city dwellers. In short, far from presenting a picture of a single unified body of human beings, the American city is a motley assortment of peoples and cultures forming a mosaic of little worlds which in part blend with one another, but, in part and for a time, remain segregated or come into conflict with one another.

From all of which one may better understand the need for broad-gauge planning to reconcile divergent view-points and interests. Nowhere is this more essential than in Pennsylvania.

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19, 1938

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Problems of Public Housing

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

That better housing for a great portion of Pennsylvania's people is needed and needed badly goes without saying. Our city slums, the run-down farm houses in rural problem areas are hardly fit to live in and even the average house in many of our communities is quite obsolete. This lack of proper housing has always been with us, but with an ever growing population it has very naturally grown steadily more serious. Slums are like the bad apple in an apple barrel. Just as the apple will eventually spot all its brothers, so slums continually, though perhaps slowly, increase as the neighboring sections fall prey to their influence.

It has been estimated by Nathan Straus, administrator of the new - National Housing Authority, that 900,000 new dwelling units are needed per year in the United States. Since Pennsylvania is essentially an industrialized urban state, it is natural to suppose that a proportionately higher number of new dwellings are needed here than in many other states. How far actual building in the Nation falls below this figure of 900,000 is shown in the figures for 1935, 1936 and 1937, which are respectively: 57,000, 250,000 and 420,000.

In any program for public housing there are two major problems with which to deal:

(1) An adequate supply of housing must be maintained to accommodate population growth and rising standards of living.

(2) Such housing must be low cost to bring decent living conditions within the reach of the lower income groups of which slum population constitutes a substantial part.

The Real Property Inventories which have been conducted for many urban communities throughout the United States (and these conditions are fairly typical of Pennsylvania) show that of the houses surveyed by them:

17.1% were overcrowded
60 % needed repairs
49.4% had no furnace or boiler
30.4% had no gas for cooking
24.5% had no tubs or showers
17.3% had no private indoor toilets
9.4% had no electricity installed.

When the question is raised as to why such conditions exist, one need only match figures with other findings of the RPI surveys disclosing that of approximately 3,000,000 urban families investigated, 78% pay less than $30.00 per month for rent and 40% pay less than $15.00 per month.

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These are some of the problems that confront public housing. What the Government intends to do about them and what has already been done, especially since the passage of the Wagner-Steagall Act, will be discussed in future issues of this column.

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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

STATE PLANNING BOARD

928 North Third Street

Harrisburg

Reference
F. A. Pitkin
Executive Director
Tel: Harrisburg 5151 - Ext. 767

RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1938.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Steps Toward Better Housing

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

In last week's column we discussed the many problems that confront any program to provide much needed better housing for a large portion of Pennsylvania's people. The first question arises as to which is the best agency for carrying out the low-cost housing program. Through past experience it has been proved that such an undertaking will not be assumed by private initiative, nor can private initiative be expected to assume it since it offers little or no profit to the promoter. The natural agency to put the job across, therefore, is the Government. Recognizing this and realizing the need for immediate action, the present administra-

tion has already gotten underway the machinery for putting into actual operation a practical method of attack upon this most pressing problem.

The Wagner-Steagall Act, passed by Congress last summer, is looked upon by well-wishers of governmental participation in housing as the instrument by which we can gain this end. It provides for half a billion dollars in Federal grants-in-aid to the states for public housing projects.

In our own state of Pennsylvania the 1937 session of the Legislature passed four housing acts which are designed to dovetail with the national program of better housing. The first of these allows the establishment of limited dividend housing companies limited to 6%. A second authorizes local governments to cooperate with local and federal housing projects by providing parks, streets and other improvements and facilities and to contract for the payment of these. A third provides the procedure for setting up local non-profit housing authorities, and the fourth, known as the State Board of Housing Law, is designed to provide the necessary supervision of local housing authorities and limited dividend corporations. Since the passage of these acts things have begun to move rapidly in our State toward fulfilling their aims and objectives.

A State Board of Housing has already been set up and is now working with communities interested in setting up local housing authorities. Such authorities have already been established in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Harrisburg, Scranton, Allentown, Chester, McKeesport, Allegheny County and Mifflin County. In order that officials of these authorities as well as all others interested in housing might get together to discuss a future program and learn what is being done in the nation, state and community, a State Housing Conference was held recently in Harrisburg.

Besides the local authorities, a number of public housing projects utilizing government funds are under way in various sections of the State. In this whole setup there is a remarkable coordination of activities between the national, state and local governments, and it is the opinion of authorities in the housing field that for the first time in our nation's history real progress is being made toward ridding this country of its housing ills.

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No. 65

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

STATE PLANNING BOARD

928 North Third Street

Harrisburg

Reference
F. A. Pitkin
Executive Director
Tel: Harrisburg 5151 - Ext. 767

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K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

That Country Air

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

The famed health affording properties of the country are in contrast less of a reproach to the city than they used to be. Since 1929, the urban infant mortality rate has fallen below the rural. City planners who are anxious to wipe out the slums of the cities and replace miserable make-shift dwellings with decent, sanitary housing, point out that the differences between urban and rural death rates are less than the variations within cities.

The effectiveness of urban health controls is also evidenced by lower mortality rates in cities from influenza, malaria, and dysentery. On the

other hand, cities have higher rates for venereal diseases, tuberculosis, epidemic diseases, alcoholism, drug addiction, general paralysis, insanity, heart diseases, and cancer.

Large cities are better equipped with physicians, dentists, nurses, and with medical facilities in general than are smaller and rural communities. Municipalities spend about twice as much per capita for public-health services as do counties in rural areas. Privately supported health organizations in cities offer nursing, health education, and other preventive services not readily available in rural communities.

Until the recent depression, however, there was a steady growth of county health departments staffed by full-time professional personnel. This represents an extension to rural areas of public health services which in some cases approach urban organizations in efficiency, although it must be recognized that many county health officers are inadequately trained and poorly paid. The total personnel in rural departments is inadequate, especially for maternity, infant, and pre-school hygiene services.

Cities, because of their relatively greater wealth, population, and technical and institutional resources, are better able to supply their residents with the more complex and specialized types of medical service than are rural communities. Under the present distribution of income, the vast majority of the population, both urban and rural, is incapable of meeting the financial burden of illness individually.

Certain tendencies toward health insurance and other means of financing medical services are under way, however, which will make the financial burden of illness easier to bear and which, since it will make medical attention more accessible, will contribute toward the widespread assurance of good health.

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K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Fire and Traffic Accidents

Prepared for (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

It is not so hard to understand why 60 per cent of the national loss of property by fire is sustained in rural areas and that the per capita fire losses in cities are less than half those of rural communities. In the cities fire fighting and fire prevention is a highly organized business and one that never sleeps. Police and night watchmen are continuously on the alert for the first sign of vagrant flame or smoke. Copious water supplies are at hand. In many towns and villages, dependence is placed on volunteer fire companies the members of which must be assembled from their places of business or homes before organized action can be had.

It may be less obvious to many why, as investigators for the National Resources Committee have determined, the cities suffered 70 per cent of the

National total of 3500 lives lost through fires in 1935. The answer may be found in the inexcusable congestions of life in cities, in the flimsily constructed "fire traps" which pass for "home" to their over-crowded occupants. The damage or destruction here may entail small monetary, but great human loss.

When, however, it comes to motor accidents the record of damage to human life is against the country though it should be noted that the cars involved frequently show city registration.

For the last 12 years, motor fatalities occurring in rural areas have been consistently higher than those in urban areas. The rate of increase in rural areas from 1924 to 1935 has been 150 per cent, contrasted with an urban increase of only 27 per cent. In the last few years the urban areas have actually decreased their auto fatality rates, whereas the rates for rural areas have continued to increase. It is a notable fact that pedestrian fatalities are higher in urban areas than in rural areas, although the trend in pedestrian deaths seems to be downward in urban areas and upward in rural areas.

The smaller cities have had the greatest increase in motor fatality rates, whereas cities over one-half million have had the lowest increase. In order to cope with this situation many cities have utilized such safety devices as the preparation of accident records, traffic planning, modern traffic codes, accident investigation, traffic-signal systems, elimination of grade crossings, auto inspection, drivers' licenses, compulsory insurance, street widening and improvement, and systematic education. The wide variation in the accident rates between cities which have become accident conscious and those that are apathetic furnishes ample proof that the hazards of traffic can be effectively reduced.

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K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Way of Living Changed Rapidly

Prepared for (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania
State Planning Board.

The swift change in the American way of living is strikingly pictured in statistics compiled for the National Resources Committee. In 1870, 52.8 per cent of American workers gainfully employed were in agriculture while in 1930 the percentage had fallen to 21.3. Starting as a wilderness on the outskirts of civilization, this country took the leap from primitive agriculturalism to mature urbanism in little more than a single century. No such sudden transformation both in the way of living and the ways of making a living has occurred in the Old World. Little wonder that we are a bit bewildered!

The degree of concentration of a large part of the urban population into a few great metropolitan areas is indicated by the fact that the 96 leading metropolitan centers of the United States, occupying only 1.2 per cent of the land area of the Nation, contained in 1930 nearly 45 per cent of its total population and 68 per cent of its urban inhabitants.

But the city is not merely the prevailing place of residence, it is also the workshop of American civilization. In 1929 there were concentrated in 155 counties, containing the larger industrial cities, 64.7 per cent of all of the industrial establishments, 74 per cent of all industrial wage earners, 80.7 per cent of all salaried officers and employees. Moreover, 78.8 per cent of all wages and 82.9 per cent of all salaries in the country were paid in these counties. The value of the products these establishments produced was 79 per cent of the country's total. They had installed 64.2 per cent of the total horsepower classed as "prime mover" and 72.5 per cent of the electric motors. They were credited with 80.2 per cent of all the value added to products by manufacturing. Eighty-three per cent of all of the wholesale trade in the United States was carried on in 127 counties, and the counties containing the 11 largest cities along accounted for over one-half of the total, while the 93 cities over 100,000 reported over three-fourths of the total. Not only are the cities, and especially the great cities, the industrial workshops of the Nation that produce the bulk of its manufactured products and employ and support the majority of its working population, but they are also the managerial, service, and commercial distributing centers.

Seventy-three per cent of all railway traffic terminates in urban areas; the single metropolis of New York contains over 500 freight stations

within a radius of 35 miles of the city. Half of all railroad passengers either begin or end their journeys in 12 metropolitan cities. The urban areas make the most use of aviation, of rapid transit, of telephones, and the telegraph. Nearly 40 per cent of all the mail in the United States originates in 12 metropolitan cities.

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K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Suicides Decline in Largest Cities

Prepared for(Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

Figure out the why of it for yourself but the fact is that there are proportionately fewer suicides in cities of over 500,000 population than in smaller cities. Perhaps it is because the great centers of population are becoming stabilized and so giving more thought to city planning with the purpose of making them healthier and more comfortable and happier places in which to live.

Again the lowest suicide rates are found in New England and the East South Central regions while the highest rates are on the Pacific Coast. According to the Urbanism Committee of the National Resources Committee who compiled the data, this latter may be accounted for in part, by the noted tendency of fast-growing cities to have a higher rate.

Every year in the United States, approximately 22,000 persons take their own lives, it is said. For the past 30 years, the rate of suicide in urban places of 10,000 population and over has been about 50 per cent higher than in the smaller cities and rural areas. The incidence of suicide for the country as a whole increases directly with the increase in the size of the city, from a rate of 15.9 per 100,000 population in cities 10,000 to 25,000 population to 19.9 in cities of 250,000 to 500,000 population. There is a noticeable decline for cities of over 500,000 population.

Urban areas with the highest percentage of adults, old people, males, and particularly elderly males, tend to have a higher incidence of suicide than other urban or rural places. Similarly, communities with large percentages of foreign born, Japanese, Chinese, and Mexican, tend to have higher rates. However the incidence of suicides among Negroes is extremely low; in 1930 their suicide rate was 5.1 per 100,000 population as compared with 15.6 for the total population. Suicides are more frequent at the extremes of the economic scale than in the middle, which might in part, account for the rural and urban differences in suicides, since extremes in wealth and poverty are found more often in the city.

Suicides increase markedly with business depressions. The suicide rate in urban areas, and for that matter in the country as a whole, is likely to decline as the economic and social security of the population increases, mental and physical health is improved, wholesome recreational facilities are provided, the population becomes more stable, and as family and community solidarity are furthered.

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K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Are Today's Floods Greater?

Prepared for (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania
State Planning Board

Whenever the word "flood" is mentioned to the average Pennsylvanian, one can safely assume that his mind will flash back to those dark days in March, 1936, when the raging waters of the Susquehanna and Ohio rivers, swelled by their equally swollen tributaries, wreaked millions of dollars of damage and incalculable human misery.

Then, too, if he is a resident of Western Pennsylvania, he most certainly will not have forgotten the flood of January, 1937, which, while it did its greatest damage in the states along the Ohio river below Pennsylvania, nevertheless, was responsible for great property losses in the western section of this State before the angry waters rolled on toward the

Mississippi.

If we except the great Johnstown flood, where a breaking dam was responsible for the biggest loss of life in the history of floods in America, we find that both the 1936 and 1937 inundations made the heretofore record floods of 1889 pale by comparison. But even though this be so, say the flood experts, the maximum flood heights were far below the theoretical maximum. Greater floods are entirely possible and will probably occur in the future.

During the early period of the State's development, floods caused little property damage because there were few houses and structures located in the areas subject to floods. As the industrial development of the State progressed, factories, homes, highways and railroads were built on the flood plains, so that floods, when they occurred, resulted in much greater financial losses.

Until a few years ago, every major flood resulted in numerous deaths as well as large financial losses. The rapid growth in the communication system, especially the radio, provided a method of warning the people of impending floods, so that today the people in a flood danger zone can be evacuated before the flood waters overflow the land. Much movable property can be removed from the danger zone if the flood warnings are given and heeded in time.

The radio broadcasts and newspaper accounts of flood conditions have done much to educate the public to the necessity for recognizing floods as a grave danger. While it would probably be difficult to prove that floods are becoming more frequent and more serious, (although our mediums of public information may sometimes unwittingly picture them so) nevertheless, floods are a constant source of danger and should be treated as such. What has been done, is being done and can be done to control, lessen or prevent them will be discussed in the forthcoming issues of this column.

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K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Preventing Flood Damage

Prepared for (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania
State Planning Board

The prevention of flood damage is a problem for which everyone interested has, it seems, a different remedy. When winter comes, and the possibility of floods is imminent, the subject is apt to provoke heated arguments among groups of experts and laymen alike. But while the measures suggested may represent a wide range of practicability, it is safe to wager that each may be grouped into one of three general classifications: Flood control works - flood protection works - and regulation, by zoning, of the flood plains.

It is agreed by unprejudiced observers that each of these ideas

has its demerits as well as its merits. Therefore, the happiest solution to an individual problem may often be an intelligent combination of two or more such measures.

Of what do these measures consist? The following brief explanations will serve for the present to give a general picture:

FLOOD CONTROL WORKS: These include (a) Structures designed to restrain the flood flows during critical periods. (Flood control reservoirs are an outstanding example of this class.)

(b) Improvements to water channels designed to accelerate the removal of abnormal flows. (Diversion channels, dredging and removal of encroachments which tend to impede the flow of water in the streams constitutes this classification.)

(c) Improvements in land use which will reduce the run-off of water from the land. Forestation, contour plowing and strip cropping all tend to increase the water holding capacity of the soil and retard the flow of water into the streams.

FLOOD PROTECTION WORKS: These consist of dykes and levees, which do not decrease the amount of water during flood times nor materially increase the speed with which it flows, but keep the streams within definite limits.

REGULATION, BY ZONING, OF THE FLOOD PLAINS: This method of protection restrains the development of the flood plains for residential and commercial purposes and should provide for the gradual elimination of nonconforming structures from the flood plains. This method reduces flood damages, but does not reduce flood waters.

In all these measures many factors, predominant among which are topography, land-use, geology and water-use, enter into consideration. For

example, a flood control reservoir cannot be economically constructed unless there is a suitable site available. A possible site may be occupied by boroughs or villages, industries, railways, highways, etc.; it may contain valuable mineral resources; or the top-soil may be such that it is a good agricultural area. To use such a site for a flood control reservoir would perhaps incur damages greater than the benefits. A possible site may consist of barren submarginal land with no cultural developments or mineral deposits of value; such a site might be ideally situated for the location of a flood control reservoir, of ample capacity, - yet geological conditions may make it worthless for such purposes.

This discussion of prevention of damage by floods will be continued in next week's column.

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K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Controlling Floods

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board

Floods are normal functions of the drainage systems. Stream channels become partially filled with silt, gravel and debris washed from the land. During normal flows the stream is unable to clear itself of this debris, and its capacity becomes less each day. Flood flows remove much of this debris - some of it is carried beyond the mouth of the stream and some deposited on the flood plain - and restore the normal capacity to the stream.

All this must be taken into consideration when measures for protecting property from floods are being planned. Dykes and levees constructed along a river prevent the deposition of this material on the flood plains.

The result is that it remains in the stream channel and the capacity of the channel is reduced. The levees must then be progressively heightened to remain effective, unless the amount of silt washed into the streams is materially reduced through improved land use practices controlling erosion.

Dykes and levees do provide local protection and their value was well proven in the January 1937 floods when the high waters which rushed down the Ohio River, leaving death and disaster in their wake, were unable to break down or go over the billion dollar levee system along the lower reaches of the Mississippi. The cost of such works is high, however, and they can be used only for local protection on streams of low or moderate velocity.

Deepening the channel and removing encroachments will tend to accelerate the water flow, thus speeding it past a city and reducing the flood height. Its chief fault lies in the fact that it often results in increasing the flood heights at points farther down the stream.

Then, again, the removal of encroachments or obstructions may produce undesirable results since it increases the stream's velocity. So long as the velocity of the stream is kept below a certain amount, the flood cannot carry buildings, houses, bridges, etc. along with it, but a slight increase in the velocity of the stream will tremendously increase its carrying power, resulting in increased damage. It is often the velocity rather than the height of flood waters which causes the destruction of property.

At the present time there are many structures located on the flood plains which could have been built on higher ground without causing inconvenience to the owners. Some of the owners of these structures were ignorant of the flood danger when they built; others, being good business men, were willing to assume the risk in order to get sites at lower prices than

they would pay for sites outside the danger zone. Still other structures, such as railroads, highways, and water-using industries were forced to build on the flood plains because other suitable sites were not available. However, flood control and protection works protect only a portion of the population - chiefly those who by ignorance or choice located on the flood plains. The greater portion of the cost of proposed works will be paid by those who located their structures outside of the flood danger zone.

There are, however, certain areas where industrial and cultural developments on the flood plains have reached such proportions that it is both economical and rational to construct flood protection or flood control works. Pittsburgh is one outstanding example of this type.

Flood control and protection for certain communities may be justified on purely economic grounds. In some communities, particularly in those of intense industrial development, flood control and protection may be justified on other grounds as well. The reoccurrence of a flood similar to that of 1936 may figuratively wash many of Pennsylvania's industries into other states. The erection of structures for flood control and protection for certain communities will not only protect the investments in industrial, governmental and private property, but will also go far toward keeping these industries within Pennsylvania.

For the sake of economy in both operation and construction, all flood control and protection works should be coordinated into a comprehensive plan. The drainage basin is the logical unit for such planning.

An owner of a building located on a flood plain may know of the flood danger and yet be willing to assume the risk so far as his own property is concerned. However, a flood might destroy his building and carry the wreckage against a bridge, forming an obstruction to water flow. Such an obstruction will result in the flooding of additional areas, with result-

ing additional damages, and perhaps in the destruction of the bridge. During flood periods, each structure on the flood plain becomes a menace; the wreckage from a single structure may cause millions of dollars worth of flood damages. Oil and gasoline tanks carried down stream create grave fire hazards, while every large timber acts as a battering ram capable of producing great property damage.

Next week's column will deal with existing works in Pennsylvania for the prevention of damage by floods.

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K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Flood Prevention Works in Pennsylvania

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State
Planning Board.

What is the status of flood prevention activity in Pennsylvania, particularly along its three great rivers - the Ohio, the Susquehanna and the Delaware and their tributaries?

Since this is a question often asked the State Planning Board, an attempt is made in this week's column to give a general but complete picture of what has been and is now being done.

For many years flood control and flood protection works were generally regarded as matters of local concern. Although many flood protection

works have been constructed in this State, they provide only local protection in most cases. While projects such as Wildwood Reservoir at Harrisburg and improvements to Codorus Creek at York are effective in reducing flood heights at specific localities, they offer little protection for communities further down stream. Scattered throughout the State are 870 large storage reservoirs, each with a capacity of one million gallons or more, which though built for purposes other than flood control, have incidental values in reducing flood heights.

Until recently, the Federal Government, which has repeatedly shown its interest in flood control, has confined its flood control activities largely to the lower Mississippi River. The passage of the River and Harbor Act of January 21, 1927 and the Flood Control Act of May 15, 1928 provided for flood control studies on the major streams of the nation, including those of Pennsylvania. Some of these studies have been completed by the Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army, while others are now in progress. The Pennsylvania Department of Forests and Waters, the Pittsburgh Flood Commission, the Association of Schuylkill Valley Municipalities and the Tri-State Authority have long campaigned for the construction of flood control works and have made studies and plans embracing various portions of the State.

Realizing that an adequate consideration of the flood control problem must also take into account many other factors, - such as low water control, water supply, navigation, stream pollution, recreation, power generation, reforestation and soil erosion, - the National Resources Committee instituted a comprehensive study of the Nation's drainage basins in 1936. This study in Pennsylvania was made with the cooperation of the State Planning Board, Department of Forests and Waters, Department of Health and other interested State and Federal agencies.

Due to the scarcity of basic data and of adequate maps, covering

many sections of the State, flood control planning necessarily has progressed slowly. However, there is virtual agreement among the various Federal, State and local agencies as to many of the projects in the proposed comprehensive program. This program as now visualized provides for the construction of large storage reservoirs in the Upper Ohio Basin, the construction of dykes and levees in the Susquehanna Basin and reservoirs, dykes and channel improvements in the Delaware Basin.

The flood control plan of the Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army, provides for the construction of eight reservoirs on streams which flow into the Allegheny River, and possibly one on the Conemaugh River. Preliminary work has been started at two of the sites. Tygart Dam, on the Monongahela River in West Virginia, is nearing completion.

In the Susquehanna Basin, levees and dykes which will provide some degree of local protection are under construction at Wilkes-Barre and Hanover Township, Kingston and Edwardsville.

Surveys and studies are being made by the Department of Forests and Waters and by the Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army, which will provide additional plans for flood control for the State.

It should be realized that the cost of erecting flood control and protection structures to secure complete protection would be extensive and, therefore, any proposed plans will provide only partial protection. The construction of such works for partial protection is apt to give people a false sense of security, so that they may tend to build many new structures on the flood plains. Although the smaller flood flows would be accommodated without resulting in property damage, a great flood would result in a tremendous property loss. For this reason, it is desirable that flood plains be zoned whenever and wherever flood control or protection works are built.

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K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

How Many City Families Live

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State
Planning Board.

City folks are likely to be fussy about the provision of "modern conveniences" when they plan a sojourn in the country, but planners interested in bringing about sanitary and comfortable housing in urban areas remind us that modern conveniences are far from being the rule where they are most essential to health and social satisfaction.

Investigators for the planners of good housing have discovered that approximately ten per cent of the urban dwellers have no electricity for lighting, and about 5 per cent have neither gas nor electricity. About a third of a

very large sample of urban homes is without gas for cooking and only a negligible proportion uses electricity for this purpose. Antiquated heating stoves are still the predominant source of heat supply; 20 per cent of the dwelling units are without hot and cold water and 5 per cent even lack plumbing. Fifteen per cent of the urban homes have no indoor toilets and 20 per cent are without tubs or showers. Large cities show a somewhat greater advance in supplying their inhabitants with modern conveniences of life although these cities, too, leave much to be desired.

These figures are indicative of the fact that there is still a large portion of the urban population which is deprived of the conveniences of life regarded as essential to urban existence. This is all the more striking if it is remembered that these facilities are available at a lower income level in the city than they are in the country, due to the ease with which the individual household can be connected with the existing utilities. It is to be recognized, of course, that far as the urban dwellers are from fully sharing in the comforts and conveniences of life which modern technology affords, the rural people are much farther from the realization of their goal.

About four-fifths of the dwelling units of urban America are made of wood and about one-third are over 30 years old. A large proportion is in a condition of aggravated obsolescence and serious disrepair. A considerable portion of the urban population of the United States lives in substandard dwellings. Urban dwellings units have less space available for family needs than rural ones and there is evidence to show that the proportion of overcrowded homes has been increasing of late. About one-fifth of all urban dwelling units are overcrowded.

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K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

The City's Population Problem

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State
Planning Board.

In view of the great metropolitan centers in Pennsylvania, it is interesting to note that the cities no longer have a birth rate sufficient to reproduce themselves and must recruit from the country. Time may come when the American city will offer prizes for large families, bonuses for the return of those who have sought pleasanter home surroundings outside, and a period of tax exemption to attract new urban residents. A better way, to be sure, would be to improve urban living conditions by bringing into town, some of the spaciousness, light, air, moderate rentals and general convenience and

human comfort and so beat the rural areas at their own game. The city can meet the competition of the country only through intelligent city planning.

The city has a vital interest, from many points of view, in the welfare of the people of the rural areas as influenced by social and economic conditions. As put by the National Resources Committee in commenting upon the report of its Urbanism Committee, the conditions of rural life today are the preconditions of urban living tomorrow. The report further points out that, -

> Low standards of rural life are of concern not merely to our agricultural regions but to our cities as well and the nation as a whole.
>
> The shift in the Nation's status from a predominantly rural to an urban people, has been so swift as to be without precedent in the history of the world. The Nation's urban population has risen from 3 per cent of the total in 1790, to 56 per cent in 1930. The family has grown smaller and the older-age group larger.
>
> An unprecedented mobility arising from the harnessing of steam, electricity, and the internal-combustion engine is responsible for this phenomenal urban development. Swifter forms of transportation have further led to suburban migration and caused the emergence of metropolitan districts instead of individual cities as the actual areas of urban life. In 1930 almost one-half of the Nation's population - that is, 54,753,000 persons or 45 per cent of the total - resided in the 96 metropolitan districts with at least 100,000 inhabitants each. These 96 metropolitan districts contain within their large central cities 37,814,000 urbanites; while 17,000,000 of our people have become suburbanites.

For nearly a century Pennsylvanians have moved steadily from the country to the city. By 1930 less than one-third of the population was in the country and only one-twelfth was on farms. More than two-thirds of the State's people dwelt in boroughs or cities of more than 2,500 population. Of these urban dwellers, more than one-half were in cities of 50,000 or more. That the metropolitan districts will continue to draw population from the rural areas seems probable, and if so, the concern of the cities with the source of this growth must be recognized by state planners.

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STATE PLANNING BOARD

928 North Third Street

Harrisburg

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K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

The Case of Old King Coal

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

There has been much discussion recently of the problems that beset the coal industry and with the event of governmental interest in a solution of these problems, the subject has become one of outstanding importance. The declining use of coal for various uses and the diminishing supply of low-cost coal have been the two major problems encountered.

Since Pennsylvania is, in spite of these problems, still the world's greatest producer of coal, we, as Pennsylvanians, have more than a passing interest in what it is all about. A recent article which appeared in "Pennsylvania Planning" entitled "Old King Coal," by Dr. George H. Ashley, chief geologist of the Department of Internal Affairs, throws much light

upon the present conditions surrounding Pennsylvania's part in the whole coal picture. Dr. Ashley said in part:

"Pennsylvania is ninth among the States in its original supply of coal but of the 21,819 million tons mined in the United States to January 1, 1936, 9,797 million or almost half has come from Pennsylvania. While Pennsylvania has many billions of tons of coal left, most of her thick and low-cost coal has been taken. When the rest is gone many industries may move from Pennsylvania to other States still having large quantities of low-cost coals. Already in many Pennsylvania coal fields mining of the low-cost coals is nearly completed and the mines have been closed; towns have declined, local markets for farmers have gone and disrepair and poverty have replaced the old appearance of business and prosperity.

"Aside from the exhaustion of the low-cost coal, the industry as a whole has suffered from a competition with oil and natural gas and the increased use of water power. Competition from water power - "white coal" - will continue indefinitely unless the climate changes. But the amount of water power available is limited. In 1923 the installed horse power in Pennsylvania was: steam 5,500,000 h.p., water 150,000 h.p., or as 97.3 is to 2.7. If every bit of the water power in Pennsylvania were developed it would supply only a small part of our present power needs. The Giant Power survey made about 15 years ago showed that at that time only 39,080,000 tons of coal were used for power. As Pennsylvania in 1923 produced 265,219,000 short tons of coal, and exported only about [illegible] 105,000,000 tons, the rest, 160 million tons must have been used in the State, for heat, power, coke-making, etc.

"At present oil and natural gas are supplying much heat and power

that otherwise would be supplied by coal. The oil and gas production of the Appalachian region passed its zenith years ago (Pennsylvania oil did so in 1891) and while the supplies in this area will last many years, they are gradually dwindling. What is true here will be true of the other fields of the United States in time. It is a matter of years and not of centuries. The oil shales in the Western States and importations from South America will prolong the use of oil and its competition with coal. Then coal must again take up the load. Germany is already making part of her supply of oil from coal. Coal may again be king in the industrial realm."

But even now this supremacy is threatened by the possibility that farm crops may some day be the source of fuel. Recently, Dr. Frank G. Whitmore, dean of the School of Chemistry and Physics at Pennsylvania State College said:

"A time will come when there will be no coal, no petroleum and no natural gas. Conservatively this period is at least a century away. In the meantime the chemist will have taken care of the problem by making use of annual crops. Harvests of the fields will be converted into hydro-carbons which will do the work now being done by natural hydro-carbons.

"Ultimately the farm chemurgic movement will put man on a pay-as-you-go basis in terms of raw materials. He will no longer be constantly drawing out of a saving bank of raw materials which has accumulated for him through millions of years."

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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

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928 North Third Street

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K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Pennsylvania's Dwindling Wood-Pile

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania
State Planning Board.

In the day when William Penn, looking over the broad sylvan acres of his vast territorial grant, could foresee the time when all these forests could be destroyed by reckless waste he insisted upon the preserving of each fifth acre in its natural timber state. We have had ample justification for his foresight. If the users of Pennsylvania's natural resources had followed Penn's wise counsel we could today easily rank first instead of twenty-second or worse among the states from the point of view of lumber out put as we did in 1929. From an original patrimony of 28 million acres of the

original "Penn's Woods" we have to date wiped out the greater part. Of the 13 million acres of timber land left, only 6 per cent remains covered with mature timber, half of which is second growth and the rest of very low quality. As late as 1890 Pennsylvania ranked among the first four states in lumber production. Today Pennsylvania is producing lumber for less than half of the wood products used in our own State. This is the one side of the tragedy of Pennsylvania's forests resources which intelligent planning and conservation alone can restore to its former primacy.

The other side of the story is perhaps even less lovely. In the wake of this wholesale "timber mining" which has characterized the lumber industry policy of the State in the past are left 2½ million acres of idle cleared land in addition to vast areas of cut-over forest lands which, without care, can yield only second-rate or scrub timber. Into this devastated area agriculture has tried to introduce a secondary source of maintenance to populations stranded by abandoned lumber camps and the wastes of stump-land. A great part of the land thus denuded has been found, at considerable public cost, to be wholly unsuitable for salvage in agricultural uses. A great part of it found its way to the auction block on the County Court House step In 1933, 550,000 acres of tax-delinquent farm land were sold to counties and 600,000 acres advertised for sale. Thus may be traced to the unguided rapacity of lumber barons a large portion of that one-fourth of State area described in studies of the State Planning Board as "Problem Areas".

This, however, does not complete the story of social loss and damage. From these denuded slopes of the Appalachians have coursed unimpeded flood streams to ravage the more populous valleys and cities below. It is important in this connection to bear in mind that doubling the velocity of run-off multiplies the cutting power by four, its power to carry soil by thirty-two,

and the size of particles, sixtyfour-fold. Thus, the speed of drainage or run-off is of the greatest significance in soil erosion. By removing forest barricades lawless waters have been released to work their havoc on both the upland areas and upon the fertile plains below.

For all of this, solutions are at hand. It is not necessary to apply oppressive measures or to call for any serious abstinence or self-sacrifice. Work carried on by our forestry departments has amply demonstrated that more money can be made as a "going concern" out of the "cropping" of timber lands than out of "timber-mining". Thus, by the use of "selective logging" and the careful cropping of forest lands, we may not only increase a major source of income and employment to Pennsylvanians but also we shall be salvaging considerable areas useful for no other purpose and we shall be restoring the original beauty that delighted the eyes of William Penn and his associates.

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K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Pennsylvania A Dust-Bowl?

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania
State Planning Board.

When scenes of the terrific dust storms which periodically ravage the "dust bowls" of the Great Plains flash upon our theatre's screens in the weekly newsreels, we are apt to view with sympathy the hardships our Middle Western neighbors are enduring and let it go at that.

When, however, the statement is made authoritatively that the same adverse conditions are entirely possible, and indeed probable, in Pennsylvania, the situation assumes, for obvious reasons, an entirely different complexion.

Does such a threat exist? Reliable inventories of our land resources show that hundreds of thousands of acres of Pennsylvania land have already been ruined by erosion (which is the reason for the troubles of the Great Plains), and that if steps are not taken to check the spread, the total will mount much higher.

What has caused this disastrous erosion? Improper land use. For, while soil erosion is a natural process, it rarely proceeds under natural conditions at a pace faster than that at which soil is formed by the deliberate process which nature employs to build soil. The natural balance, however, has been upset by man. Forests were cut down to make way for farms, the sod was turned exposing the bare soil directly to the winds and the rains, and the topsoil consequently began to blow and wash at an alarming rate.

Recognizing the immediate necessity for coping effectively with this problem, the Federal government recommended the enactment of State soil conservation district laws. In so doing, it realized that single-handed combat with erosion is costly and can never be anything but piecemeal. There is only one style of attack that seems worthwhile, that seems to hold promise of success; and that is to begin the attack where the erosion begins: at the crests of the ridges, and work down, field by field, to the stream banks in the valley below. This style of attack would begin at the center of a dust area and move, section by section, towards its outskirts.

Erodible slopes and plains would again be clothed with trees or grass; cultivated crops would be restricted to the less erodible slopes and non-erodible lands. Sloping fields would be protected by such safeguards as strip cropping, terraces, and other measures. Soil-saving and soil-improving rotations would displace soil-depleting and erosion-aggravation of unwise

cropping systems. Such a program can succeed only through cooperative effort, neighbor with neighbor, community with community, working when necessary with State and Federal agencies, such as the land-grant colleges and the State and Federal Departments of Agriculture; and even then the program is formulated by the people who live on the land and its control is held tightly in their hands.

Pennsylvania is one of 22 States to enact a Soil Conservation District Law. The creation of soil conservations districts is not mandatory, but optional, and thus the problem of preserving Pennsylvania's land is put directly up to those most vitally affected. If the project fails, it is reasonable to expect that other arrangements will have to be made sooner or later.

The land is the natural heritage of society. Upon its continued fertility depends our life. Therefore, when this fertility is threatened, our very existence is threatened, as well. It is the right of society to check this threat.

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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, May 4, 1938.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Pennsylvania's Important Farm Business

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

When people discuss Pennsylvania's future, in terms of its rank as the Nation's outstanding industrial State, they are apt to lose sight of the fact that it is a great agricultural dominion as well. Among the 48 states, Pennsylvania ranked 11th in the cash income from its farms for 1937. This is significant because Pennsylvania ranks 32nd in area, much of its land is urbanized or industrialized and vast sections of the rural area that remain are unsuited to farming.

All this seems to point to a very definite conclusion: that Pennsylvania is a state of intensive and diversified rather than extensive and undiversified

farming. Farming, whether diversified or intensive, would be hardly practical were there few or no markets in which to sell the goods. In that respect, our farmers are among the most fortunate in the world in having so large and varied markets. Fifty-two per cent of the entire urban metropolitan population of the United States lies within a three hundred mile radius of this State. Practically every agriculturist is near a good market and the network of hard surface roads throughout the State makes it possible to deliver products at the lowest possible cost.

Just what our farm business means to us is reflected in the total cash receipts which Pennsylvania farmers secure. These receipts totaled 275 millions of dollars in 1937, thus putting agriculture 3rd in importance among the State's industries.

That Pennsylvania agriculture has already reached a high degree of development is readily apparent. Despite this fact, Dr. R. L. Watts, Dean of the School of Agriculture and Experiment Station, Pennsylvania State College, writes in the April issue of Pennsylvania Planning that "there are greater opportunities for aggressive and scientific farmers today than at any time in the history of the State." "Fulfillment of these opportunities," writes Dean Watts, "will be realized in an agricultural program based on land classification." He recommends even more intensive farming with a view to increasing acre yields at a lower unit cost. To accomplish this purpose, there will have to be scientific land management, improved varieties of farm products and disease and insect control. The less productive of marginal and submarginal areas should be used for pasture, forests and recreational purposes.

An important factor in any discussion of Pennsylvania agriculture is brought out by Dean Watts in his article, when he says: "It must be recognized that the livestock industry, including poultry, is the backbone of Pennsylvania agriculture, for approximately three-fourths of the farm income is from live-

stock and livestock products. Splendid progress is being made on thousands of farms in the breeding and management of better herds and flocks, and the results are clearly reflected not only on these farms but in the total farm income of the State.

"Inasmuch as the animal industry must continue to be the basic farm enterprise, there will be marked increase in the acreage of crops such as alfalfa, barley, and improved varieties of corn, which are most important to the livestock business. Pasture improvement is destined to play a larger part in this branch of the farm enterprise.

"Our livestock enterprise is being associated more and more with the growing of cash crops. This policy is sound because of our excellent markets and the availability of a large supply of animal manures on all livestock farms. Furthermore, in vegetable gardening and in orcharding it is possible to maintain the supply of soil organic matter by the use of green manures, especially in regions where the rainfall usually is ample."

Finally, if we are to make further advances in securing and holding our easily accessible markets, every possible consideration will have to be given to all the details of successful modern merchandising. Many additional advantages are accruing to our State's farmers through educational and legislative activities, all of which promises an increasingly rapid development of our agricultural opportunities in the future. Perhaps Pennsylvania's "golden era" of agriculture lies just ahead.

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION, WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 1938

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Cooperative Rural Electrification

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania
State Planning Board.

For the average urban dweller, electricity has now become a commonplace. He snaps the necessary button or pulls the necessary switch in the confident expectation that he will be greeted by a flood of light, or by the sound of his radio, or the whir of his shaver, or any of the many other services which electricity has provided. Already electricity has seemingly gone far to fulfilling the purpose and content of urban life. We look upon each new marvel of mechanical ingenuity with easy acceptance.

Yet, should our average urban dweller stop to reflect, he would remember that conditions were not always thus! Perhaps, were he old enough, he could think back to the days of his youth when the sudden illumination of an electric light gave him the same thrill that he experienced in later years upon hearing his first radio broadcast, so rapid has been the transition from that period to the present Power Age. What many may not know, however, is that, in spite of this vast expansion of electrical service, 1/3 of our entire population still remains unsupplied with electricity - shut out of the Power Age.

That underprivileged third, composed almost entirely of rural population, can derive even greater benefits from electricity than can our city people. As John M. Carmody, administrator of the Rural Electrification Administration, points out in the April issue of "Pennsylvania Planning": "Electricity on the farm means much more than a nice light to read by. It means new living standards for the individual farm family, new community life and spirit and a completely new and revoluntionary agricultural economy."

It is this same Rural Electrification Administration that is rapidly remedying the situation of the "1/3 ill-lighted." Already R.E.A. has loaned $2,500,000 to Pennsylvania for electrification cooperative associations, and they are using the money to build more than 2000 miles of power lines. These new lines will make electricity available for the first time to 8400 Pennsylvania farms, rural schools, churches and country stores, - that means more than 40,000 men, women and children.

In what ways will the farmer benefit from electricity? Administrator Carmody says: "There are more than 200 recognized applications of electricity on the farm and in the farm home. But they are, after all, only the immediate benefits which electricity presents. They are the tangible things; the other and intangible, may be even greater in the long run."

Electricity for milking means less danger of contaminated milk, much less labor and much less time. Plenty of water provided through electricity, available to the cows at all times, means a larger production in milk with no decrease in quality. In fact, several Bradford County farmers have gone so far as to install radios in their barns, claiming that cows give more milk when milked to soft music. Oddly enough, there seems to be some scientific basis for this planning.

Electric brooders are bringing a larger proportion of baby chicks to maturity with much less care and attention, and ultra-violet lights will help keep the flocks free of disease. Lights can also be used in the laying houses to obtain greater egg production during the short days of winter, when eggs reach their highest prices. There are some very promising experiments in air-conditioning poultry houses, especially in modifying the chill of the cold nights which are prevalent in the Pennsylvania hills during the winter time.

Not only should the practical aspects of rural electrification be considered, but also the social aspects. Of these, Administrator Carmody says: "Rural electrification promises to complete the social integration of the farming community, especially when developed cooperatively. The possibility of community motion pictures, household lighting for pleasant social evenings with your friends, joint operation of refrigeration facilities for the produce of a township, the automatic qualities of electric ranges, requiring absolutely no watching or care during oven-cooking of entire meals and permitting the housewife to spend her time with the parent-teacher association, for example -- all these make for closer social ties and a better community.

"Rural electrification is, in the last analysis, a matter of community concern. The individual farmer who gets electric service derives great benefits, of course. In many cases he increases his net cash income. But the benefits to

the community as a whole are much greater, in the long run, if every farmer has electricity available to him on terms he can afford.

"Under the old system extensions of rural lines were -- and are still being -- made on the basis of individual bargaining, with each individual farmer seeking service separately from a private utility. But when a community as a whole demands and receives electric service a new situation develops. Each farmer so served gets a better deal, and a great many more farmers can have the benefits heretofore available only to a few. There returns something of that equality of opportunity upon which the Nation is founded."

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 1938.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Interdependence of Farmer and Consumer

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

The close relationship between farmer and consumer is nowhere more strikingly illustrated than in the close correspondence between the ups and downs in farm income paralleling the ups and downs in factory payrolls.

In the pre-depression years, 1924 - 1929, both the gross income from farm productions and the annual factory payrolls amounted to from 11 to 12 billio dollars; in 1932 both had fallen to about 5 billion dollars. These figures do not mean that the cash purchasing power of the farmer alone controls the money income of the factory workers, who constitute about 1/5 of the city working population, but they do illustrate how interdependent farmers and city people are and

how much they have a common interest in conditions that make for general prosperity.

It is typical of this highly commercialized age that prevalent proposals for agricultural development, no less than for "farm relief," concern themselves almost wholly with the side of farm income rather than with farm outgo.

A recent address by Louis H. Bean, economic advisor for the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, before a meeting of the Illinois Agricultural Association comes therefore as a welcome attempt to correct this distortion by restoring agriculture to its rightful balance in the larger inclusive industrial system. Mr. Bean says: "During the past five years farmers and farm leaders have concerned themselves with that part of the farm problem which farmers themselves could do something about, namely, the volume of farm production and farm prices. Much progress has been made in that direction. During the next five years, it will be necessary for farmers to concern themselves as well with the other half of the farm problem; namely, the volume of industrial production and the purchasing power of consumers. The success of the ever-normal granary farm program, the ability to attain parity prices and parity income, the general raising of the farmer's standard of living - all depend fully as much on what business men do with industrial production as on what farmers do with their production, marketings and reserves.

"During the course of recovery, particularly after the droughts of 1934 and 1936, there were many city people who failed to see this basic interdependence and saw only the fact that the increase in food prices increased the city worker's food bill.

"They did not realize that as farm prices recovered from the very low levels of 1932, they gave the rural population a purchasing power which meant immediate employment opportunities in factories, which contributed 40 per cent to the increase in factory employment in 1933 and about 25 per cent in 1934, 1935, and 1936.

"Farmers and farm leaders have in recent years learned something of the difficult problems implied in the simple phrase 'balancing production as between the different branches and regions of agriculture.' They have made a beginning with one phase of agricultural economic democracy represented by the activities of county and state conservation committees. Much, however, remains yet to be learned in the art of using the new powers granted to agriculture by the Federal Government so that they serve the best interests of all groups in agriculture - owners, tenants and laborers - and the best interests of the country as a whole."

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TO BE RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 1938.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Recreation Demonstration Areas

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board

Pennsylvania is a State of great urban communities, and large sections of its urban populations are made up of under-privileged people living in congested areas. In these areas of hot pavements and steaming tenements, Summer, with its pitiless heat, is very often more a nightmare than a pleasant season to be enjoyed to the full. Along the sun-baked streets there are no trees under which to seek escapes from the glaring sun. There are no shimmering lakes in which to bathe; no tinkling brooks beside which to relax after the daily grind.

Instead, narrow streets, flanked by run-down tenements, are filled with ragged children, playing amid the dirt and squalor, precariously dodging

trucks and autos as they play. Their elders, driven out of small, dark rooms by the oppressive heat, sit on front steps or fire escapes, hoping for a breath of cooler air.

Perhaps this picture is lightly dismissed as one of extreme conditions. We cannot say that every locality does not have parks or playgrounds to accommodate its under-privileged population. Many do. It is to the lasting credit of humanity that civic leaders and governmental agencies are working constantly to provide such facilities. But is this enough? Should not these people, or at least their children, have, for a brief space at least, the change of scene, through a Summer vacation, as have their more fortunate neighbors? That a lively realization of such pressing need already exists is reflected in the great number of Summer Camps maintained by public welfare, religious and charitable organizations for under-privileged children who could get no vacation, however short, in any other way. Unhappily, all of these camps taken together for Pennsylvania still cannot accommodate more than a fractional part of the need. Actually, the number that can be taken care of is relatively small. It is doubtful, furthermore, if such organizations, without powerful outside help, could ever establish a sufficient number of camps to accommodate all.

It is encouraging, therefore, to be able to state that the Federal Government is sponsoring a program to partially extend such outside aid. The Federal assistance is embodied in projects for recreation demonstration work by the National Park Service. Since 1935, the Park Service has been engaged in acquiring and developing these areas in an effort to demonstrate to the general public, and to state governments particularly, the value of organized camping for the underprivileged of our urban areas. What, then, are these Federal Recreation Demonstration Areas.

Briefly, a recreation demonstration area is a large section of land,

consisting of thousands of acres, upon part of which modern camp buildings are being erected. These areas are available for rental by civic, charitable and religious organizations for such distribution among the under-privileged as seems best calculated to carry out the purposes of the areas.

In Pennsylvania there are already five such areas, and portions of them will be available for camping this Summer. These areas are: French Creek, in Berks and Chester County, 6053 acres; Hickory Run, in Carbon County, 8948 acres; Blue Knob, in Bedford County, 6023 acres; Laurel Hill, in Somerset County, 4026 acres; and Raccoon Creek, in Beaver County, 5122½ acres. Additional acreage for these areas is being acquired as rapidly as circumstances will permit.

It is estimated that the existing areas alone, when fully developed, will provide two weeks' camping each Summer for 50,000 Pennsylvania people. The purpose of the program, however, is not to stop at this point, but to interest the State government in developing additional areas. When this interest has been effectually organized, it is the intention of the Federal government to turn over the areas to the State.

This is perhaps the most comprehensive single movement yet made toward assuring our under-privileged citizens Summer vacation facilities. The social benefits are readily apparent. Economic benefits, if less apparent, may be of no less value. The program merits the hearty cooperation of everyone.

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 1938

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Expansion of Planning

Prepared for (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania
State Planning Board

The value of planning and zoning for cities, for boroughs and even for the first class townships, has long been recognized and State enabling legislation for such planning and zoning has been on the statute books for many years. This planning and zoning has had, in the past, for the most part, but one purpose; namely, the improvement of the municipality's physical structure. Better street plans, modern public buildings, efficient water and sewerage systems and the like are the aim of planning commissions in these urban areas; while the restricting of various types of development within and near the municipality's limits is the job of the local zoning commission.

It was not, however, until comparatively recently that far-sighted citizens and governmental authorities began to realize the value of planning for zoning as a ready and effective tool for not only improving the physical structure of American life, but also the economic and social structures as well.

Pennsylvania is a leader in this rapid expansion of public planning. We have our State Planning Board, created in 1934 by Governor's appointment and later (July 1936) made a statutory arm of the Commonwealth's government. We have several regional planning commissions, such as the Interstate Commission on the Delaware Basin, the Tri-State Planning Commission and the Ohio Valley Planning Commission. And now we also have the necessary enabling legislation for setting up both county planning and zoning commissions, regional planning commissions comprising several counties, and for zoning commissions in townships of the second class. In fact, the expansion of eligibility to plan and to zone in Pennsylvania has reached the point at which every foot of our State is covered by enabling legislation.

Russell VanNest Black, National Resources Committee consultant to the Pennsylvania State Planning Board, in an article appearing in the May 1938 issue of "Pennsylvania Planning," says of this recent planning and zoning enabling legislation:

"The extension of planning and zoning powers to these remaining political subdivisions of the State is timely, for much of present day development is taking place in county and township territory outside of incorporated cities and boroughs and therefore beyond the reach of controls previously established for the more intensively urbanized areas. With the extensive use of the automobile and widespread availability of electric service have come an extension of homes, businesses, and industries into the rural areas, especially along the

more heavily traveled highways. Zoning is needed to bring order into the development of these 'road-towns,' to protect rural property values, to preserve the usefulness and attractiveness of highways built at large public expense, and to save Pennsylvania's unsurpassed countryside from despoliation by thoughtless, careless, and unscrupulous builders and land developers.

"More recently there has appeared a new need for rural zoning, especially on a county-wide or regional basis, as provided by the new legislation. Analyses of the increasing cost of government and of the plight of agriculture in certain states, including Pennsylvania, indicate that, in the interests of public economy and in the long-time interests of agriculture, steps must be taken toward the gradual withdrawal of unsuitable lands from active farming use and toward the gradual depopulation of sparsely settled areas where struggling families are unable to produce enough from the land to pay for even a small part of minimum public services such as those of schools and roads. By zoning the least suitable lands against agricultural settlement and use, rural populations ultimately may be brought into closer concentration upon the better lands, or to locations more readily accessible to State services, with benefit to the people concerned and to the Commonwealth."

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 1938.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Planning and the Democratic Process; Practical and Familiar Aspects

Often the discussion of problems of public planning keeps too closely to the higher and more abstract side of such problems. People who are neat and thrifty but who find themselves hard driven to meet the rent or the mortgage installments and to make the modest yet greatly needed repairs on their modest homes, have trouble in seeing what the "preservation of the American way of life" has to do with solving or easing these homely difficulties. If people toss peanut shucks onto their neatly scrubbed front porches or litter their swept pavements with pop-corn sacks and chewing gum wrappers, they feel a just resentment. They know that here is something wrong, something unneighborly and unfair. If an inconsiderate neighbor burns garbage with a leaky chimney and their parlor or sitting room is fouled with the stench, they think the

village burgess or the town cop should look into the matter of abating the nuisance.

If families of doubtful respectability and of visible indifference to cleanliness and domestic good order move into some of the fine old houses of better families that have died out, or are to be housed in "jerry-built" tenements virtually next door, they can clearly understand that an injury has been suffered and that something should be done to stop such things from happening.

Seeking some cool beauty spot along the country highway or repairing to the old familiar haunts by the mill stream they are rightly indignant at finding the eloquent proofs of urban extension in the form of a smelly litter left over from picnic festivities. As a recent article in the State Planning Board's monthly bulletin, "Pennsylvania Planning," puts it, "A little farther on, Dicky Roe, Jr. gathers a lovely and lavish armful of fragrant apple blossoms from the thrifty farmer's crack apple orchard while Ma Roe tidies up the wayside scenic spot with a generous sprinkling of sardine cans, improvised lunch boxes and the somewhat bedraggled remnants of the Sunday funnies. Little Willie Roe, not to be outdone in unrestrained individualism, asserts even at his tender age his democratic privilege by defacing with graven images or obscene verse the public comfort station and, if he thinks of the future at all, hopes half enviously he may grow up to the proprietorship of a fine string of hot-dog stands along this much traveled historic highway."

These quaint and simple folk, - honest and respectable American stock, - will at once be recognized as the vanguard of the political forces to which planning must look for the exponents of clean government and the shapers of the landscape of a "bigger and better" tomorrow.

Thus it becomes plain enough that one man's liberties can begin only where another man's rights leave off, and this is as true of communities, - be

they village, borough, city, township, county or state, - as it is of individuals. The more swift and complicated life becomes, the more necessary it becomes that people cooperate and stay within certain limits necessary to assure the greatest good to the greatest number. If people abuse the free and unlimited uses of land, - whether for offensive residence, dumps, recreational activities, - then the greatest good to the greatest number demands restriction in the form of zoning ordinances and police orders. If folk do not like these stern prohibitions they must learn to effect regulation - and above all self-regulation "by persuasion"; - by mutual consideration and increased ability to put themselves into the other fellow's place. That is true democracy brought from the skies down to solid every-day earth and living.

Weekly Series Release
No. 84

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

STATE PLANNING BOARD

928 North Third Street

Harrisburg

Reference
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Executive Director
Tel: Harrisburg 5151 - Ext. 767

RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15, 1938

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Governmental Disorganization

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania
State Planning Board

Fifty-five million people or 45 per cent of the population of the United States lived within the 96 metropolitan districts recognized by the Federal Census Bureau in 1930. Here if anywhere, one might expect to find the business of government conducted with a view to maximum efficiency. But the National Resources Committee describes the urban governmental system of these districts as "a bewildering maze of overlapping authorities."

The multiplicity of governments in the metropolitan areas is best indicated by the fact that in 1930 there were not only 272 separate incorporated places in the New York-Northeastern New Jersey metropolitan district, 135 in the

Pittsburgh district, 115 in the Chicago area, 92 in the Philadelphia district, and 56 in the Los Angeles district, but also many hundreds of other governmental units such as townships, school districts, sanitary, sewer, library, health, park, forest preserve, street lighting, utility, water, and even mosquito-abatement districts. Thus, these communities present an odd picture of independent bailiwicks performing related or even identical governmental functions with some degree of cooperation, but with a great degree of competition for municipal revenues, administrative prestige and legal powers. Frequently, these districts are too small in area or have insufficient tax resources to support essential public services.

All this governmental duplication, confusion and localism are in sharp contrast to the obvious disregard of the network of urban boundary lines by epidemics which complicate urban health work, by criminals who are not stopped by city limits, and by the city and suburban users of highways and transportation facilities who seldom know or care about the maze of political boundaries in metropolitan districts.

The whole problem is aggravated by the customary legal difficulties in applying the earlier, and now unusual, solutions of annexation, consolidation, and federation of metropolitan authorities and suburbs, and in utilizing the more frequent and current devices of special metropolitan authorities, intermunicipal and extra-territorial contractual and functional relations, and interstate and Federal arrangements.

2258

Weekly Series Release
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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 1938

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Levels of Planning

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania
State Planning Board

If Public Planning is to be effective to the greatest possible degree, it must of necessity be conducted at each governmental level with, of course, a coordinated activity among all. It is unwise to assume that a national, state or regional planning agency could handle competently the planning, for instance, of the physical detail of every county, city, borough and township within its limits. But, on the other hand, there are problems and conditions which extend beyond the boundaries of our municipalities, and it is equally unwise to expect the same results from what would amount to piece-meal planning for these problems by local agencies as from the one large Master Plan of a broad scale agency.

such as national, state and regional.

Professors William E. Cole and Hugh P. Crowe, of the University of Tennessee, in their book, "Recent Trends in Rural Planning," define the major fields of concentration in which broad scale planning is feasible as being: 1. human resources planning; 2. natural resources planning; 3. economic planning; 4. governmental planning.

Local planning, however, is concerned primarily with the physical development of the individual community.

In spite of this distinction, the two types of planning, - local and regional, - can and must cooperate upon problems that affect both. Flood control, stream pollution, highway development and recreational facilities are some of these problems. In the matter of flood control, for instance, a good example of cooperation between the various levels of planning agencies may be shown. The planning agency of a community menaced by high-waters desires to put an end to the annual destruction of property by the Spring floods. Its first step should be to arrange for cooperation with the regional planning commission, an agency which should embrace the drainage basin of the stream causing the havoc, and with the State Planning Board. Thus, the knowledge that each of these agencies possesses upon flood control may be pooled to mutual advantage, because while the state and regional planning agencies will be equally as interested in keeping the flood waters out of the local planning commission's community, as is the latter, they will also have the broader view of looking toward the effect the various types of flood protection might have upon other communities farther down the river. It will be found that the best interests of the greatest number will be served more perfectly through such cooperation.

Pennsylvania has at this writing sixty-three local planning commissions, twenty-eight of which are in cities and a like number in boroughs. The

other seven are distributed among counties (two) and first-class townships (five). For broad-scale planning, Pennsylvania has its State Planning Board and is cooperating with neighboring states through the Inter-State Commission on the Delaware Basin, Tri-State Planning Commission, and the Ohio Valley Planning Commission.

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29, 1938

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Water Use Planning

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania
State Planning Board.

The lament of the Ancient Mariner, "Water, water everywhere, but not a drop to drink!" would shortly become the plaint of many of the people in Pennsylvania were any or all of the systems that purify the water which is pumped from our rivers and streams for drinking purposes suddenly to cease functioning. We would soon find our water contaminated with industrial wastes and sewage, unfit to drink and hardly palatable.

The possibility of such an occurrence is remote, yet it serves to illustrate the dangerous conditions existent in our water sources. And, aware of these conditions, we should unhesitatingly recognize the need for constant plan-

ning to assure at all times an adequate and safe supply.

It is always encouraging, therefore, to be able to report that planning agencies for such remedy now exist. In the Ohio River basin, which drains 30.5% of the State, we have the Ohio Valley Planning Commission; while in the Delaware River Basin, draining approximately 14%, the Interstate Commission on the Delaware Basin, better known as INCODEL, and the Tri-State Planning Commission. As yet, the third member of our three greatest drainage systems, the Susquehanna, draining 46%, does not have such a planning agency, nor do the five smaller basins: Beaver, Erie, Genesee, Potomac and Chesapeake. The picture is all the more encouraging, since water use planning is a comparatively recent development attracting increasing attention.

Though important, the cure of water pollution is but one of the problems which confront the drainage basin planners. In a recent report upon "Pennsylvania's Drainage Structure", the State Planning Board included the following discussion of outstanding problems in the major basins:

"For the Delaware River Basin in Pennsylvania the outstanding problems are the abatement of excessive pollution on the lower Delaware and Schuylkill rivers, water supplies for the Philadelphia metropolitan area, flood control on the Schuylkill and Lehigh rivers, and the control of soil erosion. In the Susquehanna Basin, the major problems are flood control, the abatement of pollution, and water supplies for many of the smaller boroughs and villages. Flood control, pollution abatement and industrial water supplies are the major problems of the Upper Ohio Basin, while the problem of financing both correctional projects and desirable developments is paramount in all Basins.

"Unfortunately, the boundaries of drainage basins rarely conform with State lines. Since, however, the need for effective cooperative planning has become more widely understood, it is to be expected that interstate commissions

guided by facts and plans supplied by the planning boards and by the health and water engineers of the several states, will be instrumental in bringing about those interstate compacts and regulations needed to solve the problems.

"The Pennsylvania State Planning Board is at present engaged in making studies of the portions of drainage basins lying within its borders. Data pertinent to water use and its problems have been collected and are being coordinated with similar data collected by adjoining States. These drainage basin data when properly integrated with other data such as that relative to land use, population, transportation and industry, will form part of the scientific basis for the formulation of a Master Plan for Pennsylvania."

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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, JULY 6, 1938

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Pattern and Background of Pennsylvania Urbanism

(This is the first of a series of six articles, dealing with urbanism, past, present and future in Pennsylvania)

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board

Pennsylvania, with 354 urban communities, is far and away the Nation's leader in the number of such communities in any one State. New York comes second with 196, Illinois third with 192. To be ranked as urban, a community must have at least 2500 persons.

The fact that Pennsylvania has a greater number of urban communities than its sister, New York, is significant, because not only does New York have nearly 3,000,000 more residents than our Commonwealth, but the percentage of its population classified as urban is also greater; roughly, 80% to our 70%.

Thus, it is immediately evident that Pennsylvania has a great many more medium size and small urban communities than either of the nearest ranking States, New York and Illinois.

This conclusion is supported by the statistics which disclose that while there are five cities in the Keystone State with more than 100,000 population, the number of cities in this class is exceeded in Ohio, Massachusetts, New York and New Jersey with Texas, Indiana and California having the same number as Pennsylvania.

Pennsylvania begins to assume its numerical superiority in the 25,000 to 100,000 class having 22 such communities but sharing first place in this division with Illinois.

The real difference, however, comes in the 2500 to 25,000 class where Pennsylvania's 327 such communities give it an enormous margin over any other state.

There are two major reasons for this preponderance of medium sized and smaller communities in our State other than large cities or a larger rural population:

(1) Our pattern of industrialization which has caused to spring up many communities, dependent upon local industrial enterprise servicing surrounding areas largely agricultural, and

(2) The company towns of the coal mining industry scattered over thousands of square miles and of the large scale iron and steel plants, some of them dating back to the old charcoal furnace days.

Some of these are conditions peculiar to Pennsylvania, and the reasons for the existence of our other communities could be applied equally as well in many sections of the country.

Thus, the inescapable conclusion must be reached that the future of Pennsylvania's urban population, which in reality means the future of Pennsylvania itself, depends upon the future of our coal resources and our manufacture of steel. This conclusion is hardly a new or novel one, but the facts of our urban dependency upon coal and steel serves as added proof of its importance.

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, JULY 13, 1938

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Trade Centers of Pennsylvania

(This is the second of a series of six articles, dealing with Urbanism, past, present and future in Pennsylvania)

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board

It has been said: "If a man build a better mouse-trap, though he live in the deepest forest, the world will beat a path to his door." And as far as seeking the unusual is concerned, this may well be true.

When it comes to finding a place in which to buy their ordinary, every-day commodities, however, our people, unless certain inducements are offered, can hardly be expected to ignore accessibility. That they do not is borne out by the statistics which show that the retail merchandising business has a

tendency to flow to well-defined centers largely in proportion to accessibility.

Research conducted by a nationally-known research organization has disclosed that there are 32 such centers in Pennsylvania. In addition, Tioga and Bradford Counties have no specific shopping center assigned, while Susquehanna County comes under the Binghamton, New York, shopping center. Very naturally, the largest of these centers in population, total sales and territory are Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. These two centers serve 54% of the peopl have 52% of the total number of stores and do 60% of the total business.

Considering the major business classifications, we find that 25% of the merchandising dollar of the State is spent for food, 17% for automotive requirements, 16% for general merchandise and 10% for apparel.

Although each of Pennsylvania's retail shopping areas derives its name from the city which is its shopping center, stores in the many towns in each area obviously do a considerable amount of local business. The family food basket is filled in home markets; automobiles being sold at fixed prices are bought at agencies convenient to home; miscellaneous purchases are bought locally or in the suburbs where there is convenient parking space. But, on the other hand, national advertising and our contacts with the cities have made us style conscious; we prefer to do our shopping in the city for clothes, curtains, furniture, rugs, pianos, and such other finer merchandise -- purchases made only after mature deliberation.

The shaping up of definite shopping areas has been due to influences long at work. The shifting of trade in certain lines of merchandise away from the country stores and small town stores to the county seats and cities has been going on for many years, but it has been particularly marked since 1929. Some of the shopping center cities have been losing trade to the large stores in the metropolitan districts, but this shift has been less marked than the

changes in the areas themselves. During this period some shifts have been taking place in the opposite direction but in a less marked degree. Limitation of parking facilities led some stores to establish suburban branches. Mail order houses may have sensed a falling off in catalog sales after opening up their retail chain stores. Suburban department stores, roadside stands, gasoline filling stations with their increasing lines of merchandise, can be mentioned as some of these influencing factors.

The basic cause of the shifting of purchasing and the formation of well-defined shopping areas has been the increased use of automobiles (including trucks) and the development of good road systems. Supplementary to these causes are the growth in popularity of motion pictures and the appeal of radio advertising. Generally, rural folks now go to the larger towns of their area to shop and to visit the motion picture houses and to see the large displays of good merchandise. Consequently, the lag in the spread of styles from the city to the country is lessened. Instead of drawing their rural trade from a radius of five or six miles, the urban stores now get business from distances of thirty miles or more and the change is still going on. Automobile speeds have been increasing with a corresponding increase in distances traveled by shoppers and the urban store truck delivery.

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, JULY 20, 1938

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

The Satellite City

(This is the third of a series of six articles dealing with Urbanism, past, present and future in Pennsylvania)

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania
State Planning Board

It has been said that the suburbanite shuttles back and forth from a place where he would rather not live to a place where he would rather not work. In its report on Urbanism the National Resources Committee says that what is happening is not a flight from the City but that the urbanite is steadily being transformed into the suburbanite.

In his daily or periodical oscillating movement, of which the clock and the time schedule are symbolic, the suburban commuter exhibits the peculiar segmentalization of working and living so characteristic of modern urban society. The bedrooms of American cities are to be found in increasing numbers in the

dormitory colonies of the suburbs. The suburbanite, who in his daily routine oscillates between his vocation involving the humdrum, high-speed, technical work of business, industry, and the professions in the heart of the metropolis, and his avocation, which may range from amateur gardening and similar pastoral activities to suburban politics, is not an exception to the urban type of personality but is merely a variety of it.

The motives leading to this type of existence are to be sought in the urge to escape the obnoxious aspects of urban life without at the same time losing access to its economic and cultural advantages. In the process, the form and the functions of the city are being revolutionized.

The growth of the 96 metropolitan districts recognized by the United States Census in 1930 illustrates the nature of the regional development of the urban community. Since 1900 the rate of population increase has been greater in the satellite areas surrounding the large cities than that within their limits. While the central cities in the decade 1920-30 increased 22.3 percent, those portions of the metropolitan districts lying outside the central cities increased at about twice this rate, or nearly six times as much as the non-metropolitan part of the United States.

The central cities contain a declining proportion of the total population of the metropolitan districts, indicating that metropolitan growth is, in even larger degree than formerly, a suburban trend. While the movement of the last 100 years toward the centralization of population apparently continues, satellit. cities and surrounding rural areas are actually increasing so rapidly as to evidence a powerful dispersive force within urban regions.

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, JULY 27, 1938.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Metropolitan Districts

(This is the fourth in a series of articles dealing with Urbanism - past, present and future - in Pennsylvania)

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board

During the past several decades urban growth in Pennsylvania, paralleling that in the Nation, has been definitely regional. While our cities themselves have increased at a rapid rate, the important gain has been in their suburban districts where the rate of growth has been approximately twice that of the cities proper.

Ninety-six regional areas of urban population scattered throughout the Nation have gained the status of metropolitan districts, according to the 1930 census. The census defines a metropolitan district as an urban area having a total of at least 100,000 persons, an over-all population density of 150 persons to the square mile and "a dominant central city."

Ten of these ninety-six areas are in Pennsylvania, with approximately two-thirds (6,622,274) of the State's population (9,631,650) dwelling in these

areas. Pennsylvania's metropolitan districts are: Philadelphia (2,847,148 total population), Pittsburgh (1,953,688 total pop.), Scranton-Wilkes Barre (652,312 total pop.) Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton (322,172 total pop.), Reading (170,486 total pop.), Harrisburg (161,672 total pop.), Johnstown (147,611 total pop.), Erie (129,817 total pop.), Lancaster (123,156 total pop.), and Altoona (114,232 total pop.).

The tremendous importance of these metropolitan districts in our State's life is readily apparent even in the foregoing bare population figures.

Has this regional growth of urban population created any problems? The National Resources Committee says yes. In that body's report on Urbanism, the statement is made that the urban governmental system of these districts consists of a bewildering maze of overlapping authorities. That while the people in these districts are bound together economically, they are separated politically. That frequently the smaller political districts within the larger urban region have insufficient tax resources to support essential public services.

As remedy for these conditions, the National Resources Committee calls for reconsideration of the governmental management and structure of "these emerging centers of urban life." Proper conduct of metropolitan affairs requires an enlargement and development of local governmental areas, powers and techniques, irrespective of the political boundary lines which criss-cross these complex urban districts.

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3, 1938.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

"An Ounce of Prevention - "

(This is the fifth in a series of articles dealing with Urbanism - past, present and future - in Pennsylvania)

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board

At some time or other we have all, no doubt, listened (patiently or otherwise) to the oft repeated adages that "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure"; that "a stitch in time saves nine." Perhaps, too, occasions have risen in our daily life by which we were able to prove for ourselves the wisdom of these maxims.

All too often, however, our regard for this "advance thinking" is not carried over into our public consciousness. The unwholesome consequences which can come from such neglect are strikingly illustrated in an article by Roy Helton in the July issue of "Pennsylvania Planning," describing the necessity for the "ounce of prevention" gospel in public administration.

It says, in part:

"Planning may be a forbidding or mysterious word for some, but the saving of human lives is a phase of it that any man can understand and every community will approve. When a single child is kidnapped and murdered, the whole nation is aroused to rightful horror and springs into action to punish the guilty and prevent a repetition of the crime.

"But every child killed on a highway is just as much a loss of human life, and just as much a proper cause for public horror and corrective action. In this case, all too often, the indignation should be directed, not at the unhappy driver under whose car a playing child rushes after its ball, but at ourselves for providing that child no safe place for play, away from the public roads. Every such accident is a powerful appeal to us all for wise planning in which the state and the local community must both cooperate.....

"Nothing the school can do will compensate for such a lack of planning on the part of the community that erects it. Or suppose, as the community develops, its fine new school turns out to have been placed on the wrong side of the principal road. Then more and more of its children must four times every day cross a main route of travel. We organize safety patrols. We employ police at the crossings. And all that entails a constant and growing watchfulness and expense. The prevention of even one such misplacement, or the saving of one child's life would pay for many times the cost of a local planning program.....

"Planning is the instrument through which our want for better living can find expression. We all have that want. But to make it effective and to attain a better way of life, - better surroundings and happier conditions, requires study, knowledge and experience in this special field. To deal with all the influences that effect human welfare, safety and growth is no amateur job."

WEEKLY RELEASE #92

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10, 1938

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

"Man Makes the Town"

(This is the sixth in a series of articles dealing with Urbanism - past, present and future - in Pennsylvania)

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

It has taken a long time for man to realize that city growth and development need not be a "natural phenomenon," quite beyond man's control. Only now are most of us beginning to realize that a city is a man-made thing, - that collectively we can pretty much control a city's destiny, - that leaving city growth to chance is courting disaster.

This is the message brought to us in the most recent issue of "Pennsylvania Planning," in an article, "Man Makes the Town," by Russell VanNest Black, State Planning Board consultant. The article points out that personal liberty by no means needs to be sacrificed in order to achieve the city, "but that somehow there must be brought into the picture a unity of purpose and plan in respect to matters of broad community concern.

"These matters include the city structure as comprised of streets; parks and other public open spaces; school and other public building sites,

and railroads and other transportation facilities. It is of further community concern that room be provided somewhere in the city for all legitimate city structures and uses, including those of business and industry. Formulation of some preconception of what the city structure should be and the exercise of such controls as may be necessary to bring about that preconceived structure are what we are coming to know as city planning. The regulation of the distribution of private structures and uses is a special branch of city planning which we call zoning.

"The machinery of city planning and zoning, as provided for under the laws of Pennsylvania and of most other states, provides a modern method by which man may consciously shape the destiny of his town. It is a method by which, under democracy, we may build cities in accordance with a unified objective almost as positively and effectively, - if we only know it, - as by the one-man vision and objective that went into the building of the age-old feudal towns.

"Man makes the town? -- only when what is meant is that many men make the town. And it is only when the ideas and objectives of these many men can be woven into a single pattern that there results a city creditable to man's present knowledge and ingenuity and suitable to the age and aspirations in which he lives."

WEEKLY SERIES RELEASE
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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 1938.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Pennsylvania's Lesser Metropolitan Districts

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board

Lesser metropolitan districts - of which Pennsylvania has six - are still another important part of our State's urban population picture. Lesser metropolitan districts are urban areas comparable in many ways to metropolitan districts (discussed in a recent article) but which lack one or more of the requirements the United States Bureau of Census has set up for determining metropolitan districts.

Lesser metropolitan districts are defined by the Pennsylvania State Planning Board as having a total population of at least 50,000 persons and an over-all population density of 150 persons to the square mile. This differs from the census requirements for metropolitan districts in that the latter must have at least 100,000 persons and must have a dominant central city of 50,000 persons, in addition to the requirement of 150 persons to the square mile.

Among those districts which fall into the lesser metropolitan classification in Pennsylvania are: New Castle - Beaver Falls, 152,201 total pop-

ulation; York, 96,199 total population; Hazelton, 83,740 total population, and Williamsport, 60,499 total population.

Somewhat dissimilar from these four in that they have no dominating central city are the Schuylkill County - Northumberland County district (which includes Pottsville, Shamokin, Shenandoah, etc), 239,046 total population, and the Schuylkill County - Carbon County district (which includes Tamaqua, Palmerton, Mauch Chunk, etc), 68,868 total population. These districts are composed of a series of smaller municipalities surrounded by densely populated areas.

From the foregoing, it is disclosed that both the New Castle - Beaver Falls and the Schuylkill County - Northumberland County districts are large enough in total population to qualify as Bureau of Census metropolitan districts. The only requirement lacking is a central city of 50,000 or more population. Since New Castle City, however, had 48,674 population, according to the 1930 census, it may be safe to anticipate that the 1940 census will disclose the New Castle - Beaver Falls area as a metropolitan district at that time.

The York district, which lacks only 4,000 of the 100,000 population necessary to become a metropolitan district, may also reach this status in 1940 because York City's population of 55,254 is already more than enough to qualify it as a dominant central city.

Should both of these areas pass into the metropolitan class in 1940, all but one of the remaining four areas will be in the hard coal region.

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 1938

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Rural Population Trends

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board

Despite the very definite urban trend in Pennsylvania, our State still has a rural population exceeded only by one other -- Texas, and that by the narrow margin of 3,435,367 against 3,097,839.

It is a popular fallacy to assume that all rural population is farm population. Such is far from the case, especially in Pennsylvania. Here we find that of the 3,097,839 persons that are classified as rural population, only 846,240 persons come under the heading of farm population; the remaining 2,251,599 being classed as rural non-farm.

Rural non-farm population is defined as people residing in circumstances which are neither urban nor farm. This group includes people who live in rural surroundings but who do not farm or people residing in small villages (less than 2,500 population). A large proportion of this rural non-farm population is to be found in many of the outlying suburbs that cluster about Pennsylvania's cities and larger boroughs.

Between 1920 and 1930, although the rural non-farm population increased 3.7 per cent, Pennsylvania's total rural population suffered a 3.5 per cent decline. This loss is accounted for by the rural farm section declining 10.1 per cent. These figures are significant because they show the changing composition of our rural population.

With the coming of the depression, however, many thousands of Pennsylvanians caught in the swirl of unemployment returned to the farm for a livelihood or support. Between 1930 and 1935 our State's rural farm population increased 118,388 persons or nearly 14 per cent. With the return of good times, the former trend is expected to pick up where it had been temporarily halted by the depression. While figures are not available for Pennsylvania, this supposition is substantiated by an estimate made for the Nation as a whole which shows that in the last year, approximately 1,160,000 persons moved from farms while 872 persons moved to farms.

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31, 1938

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Pennsylvania's Diversified Farming

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

Pennsylvania's wide range in agricultural activity is nowhere more strikingly illustrated than in the fact that it has been necessary for farm experts to divide the State into twenty-five separate and distinct farming areas.* These areas range in character from sections where a diversified farming is practiced to other sections where only a single crop is harvested.

Outstanding among the types of farming practiced in our State are: dairying; the growing of vegetables, fruits, mushrooms and tobacco, and the raising of chickens, cattle and sheep.

There are several reasons for this diversification of farming. Foremost, of course, are the physical differences in the various sections of the State -- differences in topography, in soil and in climate. Then, too, proximity of markets has played an important part in determining the character of farming in certain areas. For instance, most of northeastern Pennsylvania

engages in dairying because of its nearness to New York City which can consume at least as much milk as this area can produce.

Will this diversification of farming continue? The best answer to this may be gained from the findings of the Pennsylvania State College Agricultural Esperiment Station. Basing their conclusions on a vast amount of research, they have discovered the following eight significant trends in Pennsylvania farming:

1. Dairying and poultry raising are likely to increase, while hogs will be grown in certain parts of the State mostly for local consumption. Beef cattle and sheep production will probably continue to decline slowly in those areas where they are still important.

2. Crop production will no doubt be directed more toward the growing of dairy and poultry feeds rather than of cereals for sale.

3. The decline in the production of timothy hay will probably continue and more alfalfa, clover, mixed clover and timothy, and woybeans suitable for feeding to dairy cattle will be grown.

4. Barley will tend to replace some of the oats on the better soils.

5. Potato, apple, and peach growing on a commercial scale will increase. The farms will have sufficient acreage to warrant the use of labor-saving equipment, such as planters, diggers, sprayers, graders, storage and packing sheds. The small farm orchard and potato patch will be retained for home use only, or will disappear.

6. The trend in the production of small fruits, especially raspberries and strawberries, is upward.

7. Vegetable production will continue near the larger cities and will probably expand where roadside and farm marketing opportunities are outstanding. Proximity to a large consuming population will encourage

increased production of crops like sweet corn in which deterioration begins soon after harvesting.

8. There will probably be some increase in part time farming for industrial workers. self-sufficing farms will continue to serve as a place of retirement for farmers as well as for industrial workers. The expansion of State-owned land for recreational and forestry uses will also tend to increase the opportunities for part-time farming in the areas adjacent to these developments.

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* A mimeographed bulletin listing the names and locations of these sections with a brief description of each will be mailed free to readers of this newspaper upon request to the Pennsylvania State Planning Board, 928 North Third Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1938.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Backgrounds of Pennsylvania Regionalism

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert Name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

(This is the first in a series of articles dealing with regionalism and regional planning in Pennsylvania.)

Six hundred million years ago, geologists estimate, Pennsylvania was part of a huge inland sea. Countless years later the sea had receded and in its place were mountains as high as the Alps or the Andes of today. Then followed several million years of erosion, during which period the mountains wore down to a plane but little above sea level. Finally, as the result of a succession of broad uplifts with long stops between each, and the gradual wearing down of the softer rocks into valleys, the harder rocks remaining as ridges, Pennsylvania's present topography was evolved.

This topography is such that Pennsylvania falls naturally into five physiographic regions: (a) the Pennsylvania part of the Atlantic Coastal Plain. (b) the Piedmont Plateau. (c) the Ridge and Valley Region. (d) the Allegheny Plateau. (e) the Lake Erie Plain.

Pennsylvania's part of the Atlantic Coastal Plain is a narrow strip of flat low-land located along the Delaware River in the southeastern corner of the State.

The Piedmont Plateau is a broad undulating area taking in all the land from the Coastal Plain to the Ridge and Valley Region. It includes about one-ninth of the State.

The Ridge and Valley Region includes both the Pennsylvania section of the Great Valley (comprehensive name given to the Lehigh, Lebanon and Cumberland Valleys) and Pennsylvania's sections of the Appalachian Mountains. About one-fourth of the State's area is embraced by this region.

The Allegheny Plateau includes the entire area north and west of the Ridge and Valley Region except the Lake Erie Plain. It covers about two-thirds of the State.

The Lake Erie Plain is a narrow strip of steep sloping land lying along Lake Erie.

Both the Coastal Plain and the Lake Erie Basin are in reality extensions of regions existing principally in neighboring states.

Between these two areas lie the mountain and valley regions which are so typically Pennsylvania. Here are stored the vast mineral deposits which have catapulted Pennsylvania to the eminence of foremost industrial state. Here, too, are the fertile valley farmlands which have given a livelihood to millions and sustenance to millions more. And here also are regions of unrivaled rural beauty which are providing enjoyment and recreation to increasingly greater numbers of people from every part of the Nation.

The conservation of these resources and the continuation of their

benefits is one of the important jobs confronting the planning agencies of this Commonwealth. And, if the job is to be done correctly, it will involve not only state planning and municipal planning, but connecting links in county and regional planning as well. In determining the bases for regional planning, an important factor will be the utilization of our knowledge of the five aforementioned physiographic regions and the twenty or more economic-geographic regions into which they can be subdivided.

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K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Regionalism: A Method of Planning

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

(This is the second in a series of articles dealing with regionalism and regional planning in Pennsylvania.)

Pennsylvania may be said to have, by virtue of its physical location in portions of some half dozen interstate drainage basins, a special interest in regionalism. Within the Commonwealth are also embraced a wide range of distinct cultural and economic areas. Swedish settlements in the southeastern portion, Germans in Germantown and the great limestone valley farm regions, Scotch and Irish in the Wyoming Valley. The initiative and energy of these peoples combined with an unusal degree of community pride and enterprise has led to a wide and diversified opportunity for regional planning.

Among these regional projects the most notable is that of "Incodel" -- the Interstate Commission of the Delaware River Basin -- which embraces representation and interests of Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey

and Delaware. Working in close cooperation with the health engineers and water pollution abatement agencies of the four included states, Incodel has already a fine record of accomplishment: progress toward the abatement of stream pollution in the Philadelphia metropolitan region through measures such as assisting in the creation of the Delaware County Authority and the Darby Creek Joint Authority in Pennsylvania; the consolidation of planning for conservation of the natural beauty of the Delaware Trail as one of the Country's great scenic routes, as discussed at the recent Callicoon Conference in New York state.

Here we have practical proof of what sound and logitimate regional planning can and should accomplish. None of this accomplishment could have been reasonably expected to lie within the scope and powers of local governments working separately. Yet the failure to bring about regional improvements in regard to such immediately practical and beneficial items as abatement of stream pollution, conservation of scenic beauty, unified and standardized sewage disposal, flood and erosion control, seriously affects the comfort, prosperity and well-being of all of the local communities lying within the region.

Regionalism offers a convenient and proper basis for planning the all-round welfare of individual communities in terms of the larger forces and influences which more and more complicate life in even the remotest hamlet or village.

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K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Prepared for the (Editor:insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

Metropolitan Area Planning

Of approximately a score of regional planning agencies in metropolitan districts throughout the United States, four - or about one-fifth- are in Pennsylvania. These are: the Regional Planning Federation of the Philadelphia Tri-State District; the Allegheny County (Pittsburgh and vicinity) Planning Commission; the Wyoming Valley Community Council (Wilkes-Barre), and the Harrisburg Area Regional Planning Committee.

The existence of these four regional planning organizations in our State represents an encouraging start toward the ultimate establishment of similar agencies in all of the metropolitan and other highly urbanized regions in Pennsylvania. The way has been paved for such an eventuality by the passage, at last year's session of General Assembly, of legislation enabling official regional planning.

Regional planning is important because it provides an instrument by which we may cope with planning problems that extend beyond municipal

boundaries. Typical examples of such problems are the development of the region's highways - or of its recreational facilities; the abatement of water pollution; the correct use of zoning.

Of the purpose of regional planning, the State Planning Board's most recent publication, "Planning and Zoning; - Powers and Procedures," has this to say:

"Consolidation of the Planning functions of two or more closely related counties or municipalities will give many of the benefits usually sought through political annexations or consolidations. Where political annexation or consolidation is the recognized ultimate solution, but difficult of immediate accomplishment, planning on a regional basis may pave the way to the more complete governmental unity by developing the habit of cooperative action between municipalities."

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1938.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Pennsylvania's Recreational Opportunities

(This is the first in a series of articles on recreation in Pennsylvania - its present facilities and potentialities.)

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

"Pennsylvania Has Everything", the slogan popularized by the State Publicity Commission, is nowhere more appropriate than in regard to the resources which exist for recreational development.

For, despite the facts that Pennsylvania is the most highly industrialized state in the Union; that it has a population density of 214.8 persons to the square mile, as compared with 42 for the Nation as a whole, our State is a far cry from being all urban area. Actually less than 10% of the area is urbanized.

Pennsylvania has natural facilities for parks and recreation equalled by few states. It has beautiful forest-clad mountains, studded with springs and glens. It has sparkling rivers, gorges and water vistas that make a perfect complement to the forests. The variety of its plants

and this provides one continual parade for the nature lover, spring, summer, autumn and even into the winter. The abundant wild life -- the hundred and more species of song birds and game birds; the squirrels, raccoons, deer, and bear, and the host of other animals; the fish-stocked streams all add life and movement and zest to the outdoors to a degree not met within most states.

Pennsylvania's recreational paradise now is open to our large population by a magnificent road system. The poorest can enjoy our recreation with the richest, except for transportation. Because of this transportation problem our recreation facilities need great expansion within the radius of a day's outing (perhaps 50 miles) of our urban population centers. Shorter working hours and more vacation increase the recreational use of our forests and streams. The popular response to added picnic, park and outing facilities is outstripping the present facilities.

What is being done to meet this popular demand for increased recreational facilities will be discussed in succeeding articles.

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1938.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Problem of Accessibility

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

(This is the second in a series of articles on recreation in Pennsylvania - its present facilities and potentialities.)

Approximately 75,000 acres of parks and recreation land are publicly owned in Pennsylvania. Of this total, 30,000 acres are Recreation Demonstration Areas, purchased and developed by the Federal Government to demonstrate the value of organized group camping; 22,000 acres are State Parks and 22,000 acres are municipal parks and playgrounds. With the exception of the State Parks, which are developed portions of State-owned Forest Lands, all of this acreage is in addition to the vast tracts of State-owned Forest Lands (1,600,000 acres), State-owned Game Lands (500,000 acres), and the Allegheny National Forest (400,000 acres); thus representing approximately seven and one half acres of developed public recreation land to every thousand Pennsylvania inhabitants.

The difficulty with most of this land (excluding, of course

our municipal parks and playgrounds) is its comparative inaccessibility to the large centers of population. And while any outdoor recreational system must meet the needs of both urban and rural populations, it is with the urban group that the problem is most pressing. Our rural citizen, in most instances, dwells amid pleasant country surroundings thus limiting his recreational demands principally to entertainment. Our urban citizen, however, needs not only entertainment, but also a place of occasional escape from the congested city. The population density of some of the State's 354 urban communities ranges as high as 15,000 to 18,000 persons per square mile.

With this in mind, the various agencies interested in outdoor recreation in Pennsylvania, such as the National Park Service, the State Department of Forests and Waters and the State Planning Board, are devoting a large portion of their recreational program toward the problem of developing public park areas that will be located within a 30 to 60 mile radius of the population to be served. The extent of these areas will be determined by a ratio of ten acres per thousand inhabitants in the area served.

The National Park Service estimates that an additional 200,000 acres of publicly owned park and recreation land, both suitably located and properly developed, are needed in Pennsylvania.

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K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Park Service's Pennsylvania Program

(Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

(This is the third in a series of articles on recreation in Pennsylvania -- its present facilities and potentialities.)

The National Park Service is the only governmental agency operating in Pennsylvania for the sole purpose of developing the State's recreational facilities. At the present time the Park Service is carrying on a three-fold program here embracing a Park, Parkway and Recreational Study; the development of five Recreational Demonstration Areas, and a Park Attendance and Use Study.

The former study, part of a Nation-wide survey authorized in 1936 by Congress, is divided into three phases of activity which while not concurren. do, nevertheless, overlap to a certain extent. These includes. First, a study of population composition and movement; of physical social and economic trends. of present land use, and of future land planning. Second, an inventory of existing Federal, State, county and municipal recreational areas and facilities,

together with some consideration of private facilities, and a study of how well they meet the present recreational needs of our citizens. Third, a study of potential areas and recommendations as to governmental acquisition, administration, planning and development.

The five Recreation Demonstration Areas being developed by the Park Service are: French Creek, in Berks and Chester Counties, 6053 acres; Hickory Run, in Carbon County, 8948 acres; Blue Knob, in Bedford County, 6023 acres; Laurel Hill, in Somerset County, 4026 acres, and Raccoon Creek, in Beaver County, 5122½ acres. These areas, upon part of which modern camp buildings are being erected, are available for rental at a very nominal figure by civic, charitable and religious organizations for their use in providing vacations to the under-privileged. The Park Service's purpose in sponsoring this program is to interest the State government in developing additional areas. When this interest has been actively demonstrated, the Federal government will turn over the present areas to the State.

The Park Attendance and Use Study is being conducted on twenty-two State areas. The purpose of this study is outlined by J. B. McGovern, regional supervisor for the Park Service, as follows:

"For the purpose of planning and developing park and recreational areas, it is necessary to have data on the recreational habits and interests of our people. The best method for acquiring these is by attendance counts and personal contact interviews with those who use the existing areas. Thus, not only future development of the area studied may be determined, but also the planning and development policies for new areas."

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K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Recreation's New Coordinating Agency

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

(This is the fourth in a series of articles on Recreation in Pennsylvania -- its present facilities and potentialities)

At least fifteen Federal and State agencies, as well as a number of civic groups and organizations, are devoting a large portion of their programs to the recreational development of Pennsylvania. While many of these confine their activities to some special field of development, others, such as the National Park Service, the State Department of Forests and Waters and the State Planning Board, are concerned with any and all development in the State.

For some time it has been felt that the recreational needs of the people could best be served if a central coordinating agency made up of representatives of every group interested in recreation in Pennsylvania were to be formed. The function of this agency would be to correlate all recreational programs and combine them into a State "master program," thus providing a means of avoiding duplication of work.

Further stimulus was given the idea at a conference on leisure time

issues held at Bucknell University last summer. At this conference, attended by a large group of state educators, it developed that many present have never been informed of many of the facilities now available for use and guidance in recreational activities.

It was also clear that a great deal of confusion existed as to the function of various land areas, such as the State and National forests and the Federal Recreational Demonstration Areas, in the broad scheme of recreation activities. There seemed also a lack of general information as to the County Library Service for rural areas and as to the possible use of school facilities for adult and non-school recreation.

From such circumstances was the State Recreational Council born only last month as an agency with a two-fold purpose: to correlate all recreational programs into a master program and to assure publicity on all recreational development. At the Council's organization meeting in the offices of the State Planning Board, representatives of fifteen Federal and State agencies and civic groups adopted the following four-point program:

(a) The drafting of a complete list of all agencies concerned with recreational development in Pennsylvania with a description of their functions and a listing of their services or facilities.

(b) Cooperation to unify publicity in regard to indoor and outdoor recreation, adult education and rural library service.

(c) The exchange of inter-agency information as to available aids in carrying out the various programs.

(d) Cooperation in the effort for the extension of areas and facilities needed for recreation, for the fuller use of facilities now available and for state and local planning directed toward solving the problems arising from the increase of leisure time.

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K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Tuberculosis in Pennsylvania

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

NOTICE TO EDITORS: The following article represents the major conclusions of a study just completed by the State Planning Board and is condensed from a longer article which will appear in "Pennsylvania Planning," official publication of the State Planning Board, to be published October 26th.

Tuberculosis still kills more of us between fifteen and forty-five than does any other disease. Its control becomes, therefore, a very necessary part of any planning program for Pennsylvania. Tuberculosis is definitely related to density of population. The higher the density in a county, the higher the death rate tends to be, and the greater the precautions that must be taken to fight this disease. The need for more recreation and more attractive and accessible areas in which outdoor life can be enjoyed must therefore be recognized. Such a program cannot hope to replace the efforts of public health or medical authorities, but it can go far toward making such efforts successful in the war

on this disease. The evidence for Pennsylvania is that our most congested counties are making such a fight -- that the combination of more outdoor life and of the preventive efforts of medical science is winning. But because it is winning, our gains must be extended. For the health of us all, the congested parts of our population must be given increased access to outdoor pleasures. Perhaps this may seem to be reading into statistics more than they can show. Yet these are legitimate deductions.

As to the counties of lower density, where tuberculosis as a contagious disease might naturally be expected to be at a minimum, we find a very great irregularity in the record. This irregularity is not so great as to disguise the main fact as to the basic correspondence between prevalence of tuberculosis and population density. It is, however, serious enough to lead to the conclusion that as population density goes down below a certain "optimum" point, the advantage of comparative freedom from the dangers of contagion begins to be offset by the handicap of low income, or disadvantaged living, by which is meant living under conditions that lead to self-neglect through ignorance or isolation. There is good evidence for this conclusion also. Such counties have a problem caused by excessive scattering of population -- excessive, that is, for the enjoyment of the advantages of modern life as to education and self-care. Better communication is a solution, but not a complete one; it is useless for those struggling on sub-marginal lands and handicapped by meager educational opportunity.

Nothing has been said so far about climate. The evidence that climate is a factor in tuberculosis mortality is superficially impressive. But analysis leads to the conclusion that climate is a factor of importance only in those counties of sparse and scattered settlement where the inclination or ability for self-care is often at a minimum. Localization of tuberculosis is plainly to be seen, but whether causes so localized operate directly through climate, or

indirectly through a climatic effect on agriculture and occupation, or because of an accidental arrangement of the contours of our State, one could not presume to say on the evidence at hand.

In our State, the regions of higher mortality are strikingly coincident with the eastern and western climate belts of comparatively milder weather.

But so also is the concentration of population. This factor also may in part be an effect of climate. Twenty-four counties are above the median in density and above it also in tuberculosis mortality; twenty-three counties are below in density and also below in mortality.

This clearly indicates a correlation of density to tuberculosis, although not necessarily a causal relationship.

But from the characteristics of the distributions it is possible to make the following deductions (which are subject to the qualification that the data cover only a period of five years):

1. Density of population is most closely associated with high tuberculosis death rates in the areas of highest density of population, but in such areas the effect is modified in a way consistent with the wealth, the level of education, and the concentration of medical and social agencies in such parts of our State.

2. At about the median of population density favorable influences predominate. In these counties the density is not high, education is not handicapped by extreme sparseness of population and social and medical agencies are effective and accessible.

3. In the lowest density counties where resources are necessarily limited and population more scattered, the advantage of low density is in part offset by a lack of awareness as to the need for precautionary measures or the discouragement of poor and remote settlers in regard to self care.

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1938.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

The Role of the Planning Consultant

This is the first of two articles on "The Role of the Planning Consultant," written for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by Russell VanNest Black, nationally known municipal planning consultant and Consultant to the Pennsylvania State Planning Board

It has been said that judgment is ninety per cent of planning. In accepting so simple an analysis of this governmental function, it should be borne in mind that there are many kinds and degrees of judgment. These range from expressions of unsupported individual opinion to conclusions founded upon intelligently assembled facts and upon long experience and observation. The judgment that must go into practicable and successful planning is of the latter sort.

Good planning calls for the interplay of two quite different types of informed judgment: that of the lay citizen as represented by the planning commissioner; and that of the trained and experienced planning technician. One contributes ideas and opinions growing out of long familiarity with the desires, temperament, and potentialities of his community. The other brings to bear upon

the local problem his knowledge of planning procedures and objectives and of the experience of other cities.

To be fully effective, the official planning agency should have the services of an experienced technician. But to make such an arrangement fully productive, the technician should work in such constant and close contact with the planning commissioners that the resulting plans become the joint product of their cooperative effort. In other words, planning is neither a job for the amateur nor an activity susceptible to "absent treatment."

So much for the "ninety per cent." The rest of planning is technique. Small in percentage, this is none-the-less an essential ingredient and one that must be supplied almost in its entirety by the trained technician. It includes a wide and rapidly expanding field of special knowledge covering such things as: (a) surveys to be made and facts to be compiled in approaching a particular problem or group of problems; (b) effective methods of fact presentation, interpretation, and analysis; (c) kind and number of needed maps; (d) methods of evolving plans and of their proper presentation; (e) adjustment of plans to topography and other physical conditions; (f) limitations upon plans and planning activities imposed by law and by accumulated court actions; (g) legal and administrative procedures to be employed in effectuating a plan; (h) ways and means of gaining public interest and support; and (i) methods of programming and budgeting plan recommendations. All these things and more must be known and supplied by the professional planner. A reasonable degree of proficiency in them requires long experience and years of constant study and application.

The part to be played by the consultant in the planning program will depend upon the nature of the planning commission's permanent staff; upon the amount of funds available; upon the ideas and wishes of the local planning commission; and upon the location of the planner's headquarters in relation to the

locality. Cities and counties, with a population of fifty thousand or more, frequently are in position to establish planning departments in charge of resident planning engineers.

If a competent local staff is thus or otherwise provided, most of the planning surveys and some of the planning studies can be made in the local office under the general direction of a visiting consultant whose services may be engaged for the necessary number of days per month, upon a per diem or monthly fee basis. In smaller communities and sometimes in cities of even greater size, it may be found preferable to enter into contract with the planning consultant to carry the entire planning program, within a stated price, up to the point of delivery of completed plans and covering report. If possible, at least one local engineer should have a responsible part in the planning program in order that he may be sufficiently well acquainted with procedures and with the plan to assist with continuation work and with plan administration.

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K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

The Role of the Planning Consultant

This is the second of two articles on "The Role of the Planning Consultant," written for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by Russell VanNest Black, nationally known municipal planning consultant and Consultant to the Pennsylvania State Planning Board

For the smaller and less prosperous municipalities the services of a competent planner may seem almost if not quite prohibitively expensive although, actually, they are less costly than are many other accepted professional aids such as those of designing sewer and water systems, or bridges, or public buildings. In many cases, cost to individual municipalities may be considerably reduced by group employment of a planning consultant, with simultaneous advancement of the several local plans. An important by-product of such a procedure is assurance of coordination of the plans of neighboring municipalities.

Beyond assisting with the making of plans and with the drafting of planning and zoning ordinances the planning consultant may render valuable service at zoning and other public hearings. Usually, the agreement with the consultant provides that he shall attend all public meetings of this sort for

the purpose of explaining the purpose and operation of plans or ordinance under consideration. By reason of his broad and detailed knowledge of planning and zoning matters, the consultant can, in this way, take a considerable load off the planning commission and other public officials.

One of the bug-a-boos of planning is the number of pretty city plans filed safely away and almost lost in memory. By reason of one failure or another, professional planners may be responsible for their share of dead and dying plans. But much lack of success with inherently good plans has been due to the failure of local interests to recognize that a city plan is never finished; if it is to be kept alive, it must be constantly nourished by restudy and by adjustment to changing conditions and to evolving public demand. The services of the planning consultant are as important in the subsequent administrative period as during the course of original plan-making. Especially is this so of municipalities not in position to employ well-qualified resident planning engineers. If choice must be made, it is usually better to spend a little less on the original planning studies in order to have more money for keeping the plan alive and up to date.

This is less a plea for planning consultants than for better and more effective planning. While those who think about it readily admit that there is plenty in planning to challenge a life-time of professional application to its problems and procedures, there are strangely few who, if given the opportunity, will not move blithely into the most complicated of planning situations without benefit of supporting experience or knowledge. There is something peculiarly deceptive about planning. Mistakes and inadequacies are never quite as obvious as in other forms of human effort. A badly designed bridge or building quickly becomes a crunbling monument to the incompetency of its builder. The average citizen is not likely to see in high taxes, in slums, and in traffic congestion the evidences of bad city planning.

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K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Pennsylvania's Storage Reservoirs

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

The importance of storage for conserving water and regulating stream flow is usually not fully appreciated nor understood. Without such regulation, the dependable amount of water which may be obtained from a stream for water supply purposes is limited to the minimum flow prevailing during the driest months.

There are in Pennsylvania about 870 storage reservoirs, each with a capacity of 1,000,000 gallons or more. Although the aggregate drainage area above these reservoirs is 10,900 square miles, these res-reservoirs can hold only a small fraction of the water flowing into them. The average drainage area for each reservoir is about 12.5 square miles. The total storage is 238 billion gallons, or an average of about 275 million gallons for each reservoir. Two reservoirs, Lake Wallenpaupack, in Pike and Wayne counties, and the Pymatuning Reservoir, in Crawford County, have a combined capacity of 133,000,000,000 gallons, or 56 per

cent of the total. Lake Wallenpaupack has the greatest capacity, 70,000,000,000 gallons, although its water surface area of 5,760 acres is but slightly more than one-third of that of the Pymatuning Reservoir, which has an area of 16,400 acres and a capacity of 63,000,000,000 gallons. The drainage area about Lake Wallenpaupack is 227 square miles, while that above Pymatuning is 160 square miles. Disregarding these two reservoirs, which have capacities far exceeding those of any other in the State, the average storage per reservoir is about 120,000,000 gallons.

In the case of the typical unregulated stream in Pennsylvania, probably less than five per cent of the total yearly runoff can be said to be useful and dependable for water supply purposes. It is possible, with storage reservoirs, to increase a stream's usefulness all the way through the range from minimum flow to practically 100 per cent of the yearly yield, depending upon the availability of storage reservoir sites and depending upon the extent to which such sites may be economically developed.

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K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Public Water Supplies

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

One of the outstanding triumphs of sanitary engineering in public health work is the dramatic reduction in typhoid fever attained by serving pure water supplies and providing communities with sewerage facilities.

As parts of Pennsylvania became urbanized and dwelling houses in towns were built closer together, many drinking water wells became contaminated. With the sewering of towns without adequate treatment, streams were polluted and in the past, public water supplies were derived from them and the water served without adequate purification. Under these conditions typhoid fever, with its toll of suffering and death, stalked the State. Up to the early years of the 20th Century there was no State control over public water supplies or over municipal sewerage.

Disease epidemics so aroused the Legislature in 1905 that it created the Pennsylvania Department of Health and gave it sanitary control

over water supplies and sewerage. During 1906 about 24,500 cases of typhoid and almost 4000 deaths were reported in Pennsylvania. The number of cases and deaths per year has dropped, in the 33 years the State Health Department has been in existence, to a total in 1937 of 856 and 112 respectively although the population has increased almost 50% to approximately 10,000,000 persons.

Before water can be served to the public, application must be made to the Department of Health for the issuance of a permit approving the source of supply and stipulating the conditions under which the water may be served, that is to say, as to its purification. Field examinations are made of the proposed source and the plans of the proposed water works are examined to see that the processes of purification are adequate to produce, at all times, a safe and pure water supply. Thereafter, periodic inspections are made of the water works.

The dominant sources of public water supplies in Pennsylvania are surface streams. Water of clean streams in the sparsely settled country is impounded and in most cases chlorinated before delivery to the consumer. Water derived from the larger streams in nearly all cases is filtered and chlorinated. More than six hundred water works now serve purified water to 7,600,000 people in Pennsylvania.

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K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Purifying Pennsylvania's Water

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

Years ago when public water supplies were first introduced into Pennsylvania, most streams were cleaner than at present. Under these conditions the source of supply generally chosen was the nearest available water and many of these sources are still in use, notwithstanding the increase in pollution.

In the interim, processes of water purification have been developed to remove or modify nearly all of the different kinds of organic and inorganic impurities present in raw water. Most of these processes have been sufficiently well established that, when operated with skill and fidelity, it is possible to produce a bacteriologically safe water and generally a palatable supply even though the raw water is much too polluted to be used untreated. Obviously, however, this is repugnant.

So there is a rapidly growing demand on the part of the public for the use of relatively clean water as the source of supply with minimum

artificial purification rather than the serving of purified polluted raw water. This principle should be reckoned with in the preparation of comprehensive water supply plans.

Another problem is that of the approximately 2,000,000 of the State's population who do not receive public water supplies but depend upon wells and springs. They are the dwellers in the rural districts and smaller towns. In the interests of public health, every community should have a pure public water supply. Lack of financial ability is the most common deterrent to attaining this goal. There is not, and probably cannot be complete State control over private water supplies because such control would be prohibitive in cost.

To meet this need, however, the Department of Health, for several years has been examining, upon request, such water supplies, advising the householder concerning defects in the structures needed to safeguard the water against surface contamination and making bacteriological analyses of the water.

The rural typhoid rate is still higher than the urban rate and its reduction is a real health problem.

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1938.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Industrial Water Consumption and Power

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board

It is estimated that the industrial consumption of water in Pennsylvania is two and one-half billion gallons daily. Many steel, iron, coal companies and other industrial plants use large quantities of water and pump directly from the large rivers if conveniently located. Railroads are also large users of water, the Pennsylvania Railroad supplying its main lines through controlled incorporated water companies. Cement mills, glass plants, tanneries, paper mills and dye works likewise use considerable quantities of water, and a large number have their own supply systems.

The other phase of any discussion of industrial water supplies is "Water Power." In the early days of Pennsylvania and almost down to the present time, "Water Power" meant mechanical power generated by water. Now when we speak of Water Power, we usually mean hydro-electric power or electric power generated by water. The first power plants, although small

were well suited to furnish power to small local industries. Power could not be transmitted any great distance, and these industries were built up around the sites of the power developments. Many of the smaller plants have outlived their usefulness and have since been abandoned.

The flow of water in most Pennsylvania streams fluctuates greatly, and there are but very few places where reservoirs large enough to equalize the seasonal flows can be built economically. Auxiliary plants, usually steam, are accordingly necessary to supply power during periods of low water. When hydro-electric plants were first built, they were generally considered as being in competition with steam plants; but it was soon discovered, in view of the wide variations in stream flows and the few opportunities for large storage, that hydro-electric and steam plants (In Pennsylvania at least) were not competitors; but on the contrary, supplemented each other.

One of the needs of the monent is a survey that will develop in a general way the present and future reasonable needs of water for industrial purposes. Such a survey will tend to avoid future conflict between domestic and industrial water supply developments and indicate how they may be combined to mutual advantage. It can also result in a selection of possible sites for hydro-electric development and a determination where storage reservoirs may be built to regulate stream flow thus increasing the power to be derived from flowing water. Finally, it will also indicate the possibilities of combining power development, water supply, flood control and river regulation.

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K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

State Administration of Water Resources

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Board.

Pennsylvania was one of the first states in the Union to enact legislation leading to the development of a definite system of planning with respect to its water resources.

In 1905 the Water Supply Commission of Pennsylvania was created and organized as an administrative State agency charged with the responsibility of planning not only for the immediate but for the future use, conservation and development of the water resources of the State, except in matters pertaining to the purity or quality of water, which was a function previously placed by the legislature under the jurisdiction of the Department of Health. It continued to function until 1923 when it was merged with the Department of Forestry to form the Department of Forests and Waters, and a new Board was created within the Department known as the Water and Power Resources Board.

The personnel consists of the Secretary of Forests and Waters as

Chairman, the Secretary of Health, the Commissioner of Fisheries, a member of the Public Service Commission and an engineer member, both appointed by the Governor. Its duties consist principally in acting upon applications for charters of water power companies, mergers and applications for permits for the construction of dams and other water obstructions, etc. The Board has power, upon application of the Secretary of Forests and Waters, to hold hearings upon and decide any other matter or thing relating to waters which may be within the jurisdiction of the Department.

A primary consideration in the creation of the Water Supply Commission came about as the result of a practice which had developed rapidly, prior to 1905, of incorporating water companies for the purpose of securing control of streams, either for purely speculative purposes or for industrial supplies to railroad companies, coal companies, steel mills or other large commercial consumers of water. These companies secured some of the best streams in the Commonwealth. Many were created solely for the purpose of speculation, and the water supply rights thus held in the more desirable streams were subsequently sold to municipalities or other water companies. The Act of May 4, 1905, corrected many of these abuses by giving the Commission power over allocation of streams and the right to decide whether the streams will be fully developed by means of storage in the interest of the conservation of water. This power is now exercised by the Water and Power Resources Board.

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K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Pennsylvania's Inland Waterways

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

Perhaps the least familiar of Pennsylvania's present-day major transportation facilities is her inland waterways system. Yet one hundred years ago, when the State's inland water routes, - principally canals, - were the dominant mode of transportation, both for passengers and for freight, they carried a smaller volume of tonnage than the waterways of today. An interesting picture of that early period in the State's transportation history is given by Professors Raymond E. and Marion Murphy, of State College, in their recent book, "Pennsylvania; a Regional Geography":

"During the boom times of the early thirties the State had launched a widespread, interlocking system of canals and many miles of disjointed railroad. It was now possible to start from Philadelphia in a shower of soot and cinders; change from railroad to canal packet at Columbia on the Susquehanna, be pulled majestically by mules along the Pennsylvania Canal to Hollidaysburg, transfer there to the Portage Railroad for the abrupt rise over the Allegheny Front; change back to packet boat again at Johnstown; and arrive in Pittsburgh five days after starting, exhausted by the strenuous effort. Such speed was

a sign of the times. Pennsylvania and her sister states were just beginning to glimpse the possibilities of the future, and it is not suprising that they went a little wild over the spectacle."

But by 1840, Pennsylvania's canals had reached the top, and with the subsequent development of the steam railroads, the canals went down hill rapidly. Today, the navigable rivers of the State comprise the major portion of its waterways system. These waterways include the following five rivers and canals, totaling approximately 622 miles in length: the Delaware River (Philadelphia to Trenton) 33.7 miles in length; the Lehigh and Delaware Division Canals, 68 miles; the Schuylkill Canal, 90 miles; the Allegheny River, 255 miles; the Monongahela River, 131 miles; the Youghiogheny River, 9 miles, and the Ohio River (Pittsburgh to the Ohio Border), 36 miles.

This list discloses that only the eastern and western portions of the State are touched by navigable water routes. Although the central portion of the State, once the hub of the far-flung canal system, is served by the Susquehanna River, its facilities are not now developed on a navigable basis either by canals or by simple river improvements.

The great majority of the tonnage transported on these inland waterways consists of bulk products, such as coal and other mineral, or low grade products which do not require expedited services and which are shipped in such large quantities that low cost is the primary consideration.

The role of the inland waterways in Pennsylvania's future transportation development is uncertain, but it is safe to assume that as long as Pittsburgh remains the world's greatest steel center and Philadelphia the Nation's second largest seaport (in terms of commerce), the Ohio River and its tributaries in the west and the Delaware River in the east will continue to be major inland waterways.

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1938.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Iron Ore Mining May Return

Although the Pennsylvania-mined iron ores which originally helped to make our State the center of the Nation's iron and steel business have long since been driven from their pre-eminent position in the markets by a higher grade Lake Superior ore, the time seems not so far away when our State will regain a measure of its early importance as an iron ore producer. The prediction by experts that a sharp decrease is impending in the flow of ore from the Lake Superior region bespeaks, these experts claim, the ultimate exhaustion of this Great Lake source forty or fifty years hence.

Long before forty years have elapsed, however, it will be necessary, if the production of steel is to continue at a normal pace, to again call upon the lower grade deposits of the Nation, much of which are in the vast unmined reserves of our State. The present greatness of these unmined reserves reveals an interesting point, namely that the very crudity and inefficiency of early Pennsylvania mining methods which helped cost the State its loss in iron ore dominance, have preserved for the future many reserves which by now would have been mined had these methods been less crude.

The Cornwall iron mine in Lebanon County is the notable exception to the belief that the State's iron ore is all of a low grade variety. After nearly 200 years of continuous working, Cornwall is today the only iron mine in operation in the State. While its ore is magnetite, averaging about 35 to 40 per cent iron, this can be concentrated so cheaply it is highly profitable to mine.

A survey of the Nation's iron ore prospects has produced the following conclusions if we as a State are to take fullest advantage of the impending shift back to Pennsylvania ore:

(1) Careful prospecting, especially by the use of the newer geophysical methods, may well locate important unknown iron ore bodies in the State, especially in the regions where ores are magnetic.

(2) Studies leading to the improvement of beneficiation methods such as crushing, screening, drying, washing, jigging, electromagnetic separation, smelting, nodulizing, desulfurization, etc., should make possible the use of our lower grade iron ores. Such methods are already in extensive use in the Lake Superior district. In that region they are making possible the use of lower grade ores as the better ores are being exhausted. Recognizing this fact, the State of Minnesota has for some years been engaged actively in a study of beneficiation methods of Minnesota Ores.

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 1939.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Clay Products Industries

Pennsylvania has abundant supplies of most of the lower grades of clay. Much of the best pottery clay in the State has long been brought in from other states or even from abroad, and although enormous quantities of fire clay occur associated with the coal beds of Pennsylvania, the quantity of high grade fire clays in the State appears to be quite limited.

Clay products consist of common brick, paving brick, face brick, hollow tile, terra cotta, sewer pipe, roofing tile, refractories (heat resisting products.) etc. The raw materials used in the manufacture of many of the clay products are not required to pass rigid specifications as to properties. Other products, such as refractories, Pennsylvania's particular specialty, must be made from clays of high purity, which makes it necessary in practice to discard, or not to mine at all, large proportions of the available deposits.

Preliminary study has convinced us that if processes could be developed that would make possible the removal of some of the objectionable

impurities in clays, not only could the properties of the finished products be imporved, but, in addition, large quantities of raw material now discarded or neglected could be used to manufacture valuable products. This is especially true of refractories or heat-resisting brick and other shapes that are absolutely essential in furnace construction in the iron and steel and other metallurgical industries, in by-product coking and glass making. Research to develop such benefication processes is essential if Pennsylvania is to maintain its high standing in the clay-products industries.

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K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

PENNSYLVANIA LOSING MINERAL LEADERSHIP

Prepared for the (Editor. Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

Losing ground at an alarming rate, Pennsylvania's mineral industries -- the very heart of her economic development -- more than ever need sound planning if the Commonwealth is to retain its leadership. The truth of this statement is proven by the following comparison:

In 1919, the value created by the State's principal mineral industries - coal, oil, iron, etc. - represented 32½% of the Nation's total. By 1929 it had dropped to 25%, and for 1939, we must anticipate an even smaller precentage. Nearly every one of the State's mineral industries is affected in this decline.

There are two principal reasons for this loss of ground: 1. Much of the readily accessible wealth has been used up and, 2. Increasing competition has developed. Research is indispensable to combat the growing difficulties with which these industries are faced. More diligent search for new mineral deposits, development of better means of utilizing minerals, perfection of new

uses, studies of underlying economic problems -- not one but all of these are necessary if Pennsylvania is to continue to profit from its mineral wealth.

The prosperity of the entire State is, in a large measure, depending upon that of these industries, and the past few years have borne witness to the obvious truth that the mineral industrial worker could do no buying -- even of agricultural products -- when he could not get work.

Support being given to research on the part of certain associations, representing whole industries, for the benefit of the groups as a whole and not a single company, is a hopeful sign. Pennsylvania's School of Mineral Industries at State College has experienced gratifying support for its educational and research program.

The United States is the greatest mineral producing and processing country in the world, and, within the United States, Pennsylvania is by far the leading state in these activities.

By sound planning both public and private, embracing every phase of the problem, Pennsylvania may help to retain this leadership.

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 1939.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board

Pennsylvania Leader In Cement Production

Pennsylvania has for nearly a half century been the Nation's leading producer of Portland cement, the variety most generally made and used. Portland cement is a powered material that sets when mixed with water and is so named because of its resemblance when hard to the Portland limestone of England.

At one time Pennsylvania had a strangle-hold on the Portland cement production market, manufacturing more than 85% of the Nation's total volume, but the wide distributing of the required raw materials and the burden of freight costs has caused the scattering of the cement industry to all sections of the country. Despite this great expansion in other states, however, our State still produces a fifth of the Nation's total, more than twice as much as California, our nearest competitor. ... It is safe to assume that the proximity of most of the Nation's largest cement markets will continue Pennsylvania as the leader. These large consuming markets are New York, New Jersey and New England.

The Lehigh Valley, in Eastern Pennsylvania, is the Nation's

"Cement Capital", since more than three-quarters of the Pennsylvania product is produced there. This district, comprising Lehigh and Northampton Counties, has twenty-three of the State's thirty-one plants with the other eight being distributed as follows; three in Lawrence County and one each in Allegheny, Berks, Butler, Montgomery and York Counties.

The reasons for the Lehigh area's leadership is given in Professor Raymond E. and Marion Murphy's book, "Pennsylvania; a Regional Geography":

"In the mills of the Lehigh Valley a clayey limestone or 'cement rock' quarried at or near the plants has almost exactly the right proportions of the necessary ingredients. Sometimes the proportion of calcium carbonate is too high and clay must be added, but it is more common for the 'cement rock' to run too low in calcium carbonate. Hence, some high-grade limestone has to be brought to the mills, commonly from quarries in the Lebanon Valley, but the amount that must be added is usually small."

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 1939.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

Pennsylvania's Industrial Pattern

In his Inaugural Address last week, the Governor outlined, as part of a program for industrial recovery in this State, a plan to present the many advantages of location in Pennsylvania to out-of-state manufacturers and other outside firms. It might be interesting to note at this time the present pattern of Pennsylvania industry since this is a background to which we must refer for determination of what we can offer.

Of the approximately 300 types of manufacture which, according to the most recent figures of the U. S. Bureau of Census, are carried on in the Nation, more than 200 are represented in Pennsylvania. Thus, it is seen that a "Sell Pennsylvania" program will not be limited in variety of prospects to whom the State may be recommended.

That Pennsylvania's high industrial "diversification ratio" is no accident goes without saying. The two principal reasons for it are our

State's abundance of natural resources and our proximity to the Nation's greatest markets. Because of these, we have been able to build a vast transportation system that includes a railway mileage average three times that of the Nation as a whole, and the third largest highway system in the Nation. Add the vast supplies of labor that exist today in the Keystone State, and there is presented a picture that should engage the interest of many industrial and commercial organizations desirous of improving their lot.

We have discussed Pennsylvania's diversity of industry. But Pennsylvania does not have diversity alone. She has pre-eminence. Of her 200 types of manufacturing endeavor, our State leads the Nation in twenty-six.

Foremost among those types of manufacture in which our State leads all others are our steel works and rolling mill products. Others include knit goods; blast-furnace products; leather (tanned, curried and finished); glass; silk manufactures; coke oven products; cigars, chocolate and cocoa products (not including confectionary); structural and ornamental metal work in plants not operated in connection with rolling mills; clay products (other than pottery) and non-clay refractories; rayon manufactures; wrought pipe, welded and heavy riveted, which is made in plants not operated in connection with rolling mills; cement, liquors, rectified and blended; boiler shops, machine shops; lace goods; lubricating greases not made in petroleum refineries, and plumbers' supplies.

This is an imposing roll-call, but, in view of the many advantages which Pennsylvania can claim, it is not necessarily imposing enough. An industrial development program, such as Governor James has proposed, should enjoy the same successful response to its promotion of our superior industrial advantages as that gained by the Pennsylvania Publicity Commission in advertising to the Nation the beauties of our scenery and the unequalled facilities for vacationing in the State that "has everything".

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RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1939

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

Oil in Pennsylvania

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

One of Pennsylvania's chief claims to fame is the fact that the oil industry originated and was developed largely within her borders. Few industries have a more fascinating story.

In the 1850's the industrialization of the United States caused a rapid increase in demand for illuminants and lubricants. Whale oil had been widely used for both, and its price soared to $2.50 a gallon. Substitutes were developed, and vegetable oils partly replaced whale oil as a lubricant. In England a method of distilling kerosene from coal was developed, and a coal-oil industry was rapidly growing in this country.

About this time a group of New Haven capitalists submitted a sample of the "Seneca Oil" or petroleum which was found as a scum on certain springs in western Pennsylvania, to Benjamin Silliman, the famous chemist and mineralogist of Yale. After a thorough analysis, he reported that it was a mixture of oils which could be separated by fractional distillation into components

having very valuable lubricating and illuminating qualities. However, only very small quantities could be secured by skimming the springs or by dipping blankets into them and wringing them out. It was suspected by some that oil might exist in greater quantities beneath the surface but no one had any good plans for mining it.

In West Virginia for a long time there was a thriving salt industry and methods of drilling wells many hundreds of feet to tap the orine-bearing strata had been gradually developed. Occasionally petroleum had accompanied the brine, to the great disgust of the salt men. The New Haven capitalists decided that it might be possible to get oil in the same way and they hired a retired railroad conductor, Edwin Drake, gave him the fictitious title of Colonel, and sent him to western Pennsylvania to start operations.

After many discouragements and vicissitudes, Drake's well, on August 27, 1859, found oil at a depth of 69 feet and started pumping 20 barrels a day. The importance of the discovery was not realized at first but soon all the land in the vicinity was leased and many other wells were drilling. From some of them the oil flowed out at tremendous rates, to the amazement of everyone. Drake believed that he had tapped the underground reservoir, and never bothered to lease more land or drill another well. The oil was generally believed to be in crevices in the rock, and it was not until the geologists of the Pennsylvania Geological Survey studied the area in the seventies that it became generally understood that the oil is contained in the pores of sandstones, sealed in by impervious beds of shale, and under pressure from its own gas (like the gas in soda water) and the pressure of the ground water.

The new source of riches caused a rush which brought thousands of people to the oil country. Many were laborers and craftsmen, many were soldiers returning from the Civil War, and many were speculators. New strikes

were followed by booms eclipsing those of the mining towns in the West. Cities grew up over night, to be abandoned when the flush production ceased.

At first the oil was carted in wagons to the nearest railroad, or shipped down the rivers on barges. Then, against violent opposition from the teamsters, the first pipe-line was laid. The first large production in 1861 entirely broke the market, and that, together with an attempted "freeze-out" of the independents by the larger companies, dropped the price of oil from $10 to 10¢ a barrel! As the uses and demand for oil increased, the price recovered. To this day the oil industry suffers from periods of over-production caused by drilling too many wells when the price is high. Dr. Parke Dickey, of the State Geological Survey, who is making a survey of the oil industry in Pennsylvania, reports that this State's oil fields are at present in the throes of a period of over-production.

Indications of oil had been reported from other places and the methods of drilling developed here were taken by Pennsylvanians to all parts of the world. Although newer methods, developed in the West, now are in use. Titusville and Oil City men will be found in every continent of the earth, wherever oil is found.

During the past thirty years the Pennsylvania fields have been outstripped by the Mid-Continent and Gulf fields in volume of output. After their natural pressure was gone, the wells in the once great pools produced only a few gallons a day, and apparently the Pennsylvania industry was doomed to rapid extinction. But it became known that much of the oil was still in the ground and lacked only the propulsive force of the gas to bring it to the wells where it could be pumped to the surface. The introduction of water and air under pressure to force the oil out has given the fields a new lease on life by allowing the recovery of an addition 15% to 20%. These methods of

extraction, although expensive, are profitable since the high quality, lubricating oils derived from Pennsylvania crude make its price higher than that of the more abundant western oils.

The Pennsylvania oil industry using present production methods can look forward to a future of about 50 years. This future can be further extended if new methods are developed to extract a larger proportion of the oil still remaining in the sandstones.

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K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

(Weekly Series #118)

Prepared for the (editor: insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

BRADFORD: OUR STATE'S LARGEST OIL PRODUCER

In recent years world-wide attention has been focussed upon the remarkable recovery made by the Bradford oil field of northwestern Pennsylvania. At one time, not so many years ago, production in the Bradford field had almost ceased. Today the Bradford field is responsible for approximately 85% of the State's entire production.

This recovery was achieved by the unusually successful application of artificial water flooding methods, for nowhere else in the world has water flooding been so successful. Previously the oil had been produced by ordinary drilling and pumping methods which utilized the natural pressure of the reservoirs themselves. With the ultimate exhaustion of this natural pressure, however, these methods became ineffective.

The Bradford field (86% of which is located in the northcentral part of McKean County, Pennsylvania; 14% in Cattaraugus County, New York) is the Nation's second largest field in total of continuous production area. While the Bradford field occupies but 5% of Pennsylvania's petroleum area, it is exceeded in total of continuous production area only by the comparatively new East Texas field.

From its beginnings in 1871 (as early as 1862 oil was known to exist in the vicinity but no development was undertaken), the Bradford field has produced to the present time almost 400 million barrels of oil. In total production, it ranks among the first ten fields in the Nation. Of this total, 203,600,000 barrels were produced by ordinary methods utilizing natural pressure, while an additional 195,000,000 barrels have been recovered by water flooding. As the Bradford field is estimated to have had an original supply of one billion, two hundred and fifty million barrels, experts believe that by using present methods of production, the eventual total can be raised to approximately five hundred million barrels. During the past three years these methods have produced an average annual total of fifteen million barrels.

According to these estimates, however, 60% of the total oil originally present in the Bradford field will still remain underground after the present system of water flooding ceases to be effective. Thus, if our State's largest producing field is to retain any measure of its present pre-eminence beyond the next dozen or so years, new methods will have to be discovered for the recovery of this large portion of our oil resources. When it is considered that no other oil in the world can even approach Pennsylvania oil in point of quality for lubricating purposes, and that a great reduction in the field's present production rate would throw thousands out of employment, the problem becomes a major challenge to Pennsylvania's inventive genius.

RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1939.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

(Weekly Series #119)

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by
F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State
Planning Board

Pennsylvania's Planning History

Pennsylvania cities were among the very first in the United States to undertake comprehensive planning. Philadelphia had a well-established city planning department more than twenty-five years ago. One of the most frequently cited early city plans is William Penn's Plan for the "Quaker City". A Philadelphian was among the very first proponents of zoning. The Pennsylvania law for the establishment and protection of the official city plan grows out of an act of the Provincial Council in colonial times.

Planning vision appears to have lapsed early in the eighteen hundreds. A form of the official city plan law was retained in Pennsylvania but there is little evidence of continued attention to comprehensive city planning. Vision not only lapsed but went into reverse. Old turnpikes planned and laid out at widths of ninety-nine feet were reduced to sixty-six

feet and, then, some of them, cut again to thirty-three feet. Wheat and corn land were more important than idle acreage in roads. The horseless carriage had not yet appeared and few were the trips to town.

The automobile, industrial expansion, rapid city growth, and the increased cost of the more elaborate city improvements of the early nineteen hundreds forced attention once more upon the need for planned order and foresight in the building of cities. The Chicago World's Fair of 1893 demonstrated the architectural values that might be achieved by conscious civic design. By 1925 there had been organized and there were actively at work in Pennsylvania thirty-eight municipal planning commissions. Regional planning was under way in the Pittsburgh and Philadelphia Metropolitan Districts. Sixty-nine municipalities had adopted zoning ordinances. It cannot be said that city planning was in full flower when the depression struck in late 1929, but distinct progress was being made and prospects were good.

Strangely, for those who see in planning a process for puolic economy, the depression fell like a blight upon city planning, -- more so in Pennsylvania even than in many other states. It seemed not to have occurred to municipal administrations that cities as well as individuals must plan more and not less when income is reduced. Not only did the creation of new planning commissions virtually stop but most existing commissions were forced, by lack of working funds, either into inactivity or into work quite foreign to comprehensive and long-range planning. Thirty-eight municipal planning commissions had been created up to 1925; between 1925 and 1930, twenty-two were added, whereas only nine have been added since 1930. Of the sixty-nine present municipal planning commissions in Pennsylvania, probably not a baker's dozen are in reasonably effective action.

Two jobs, therefore, now confront the municipal planning of this Commonwealth: (1) the revitalizing of existing planning commissions; and (2) the establishment of new commissions where needed.

Every municipality that does not contemplate shutting up shop and moving out, every one that continues to spend money for public improvements should plan. Alterations in the old city structure as well as city expansion can be done better and more economically if carried out in accordance with a city plan. Prospects of large growth are not a prerequisite to effective planning. Cities never stand still. Population growth may stop, but obsolescence, changes, and rebuilding go on. The "old" is seldom so good but that it can be improved in the "new". Prosperity lends incentive to planning but impoverishment increases its necessity.

RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1939

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

(Weekly Series #120)

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board

PENNSYLVANIA'S WAR AGAINST OFFENSIVE ROADSIDE USES

Opposition of public-spirited Pennsylvanians to undesirable roadside developments has never been so great as it is today. All over the State civic organizations are joining hands with the National Roadside Council, the Pennsylvania State Planning Board and other public and quasi-public agencies in a drive for roadside control.

Already the State government has given its counties and townships the necessary authority to accomplish this purpose through highway and rural zoning. In addition, bills have been introduced into the General Assembly which would license all billboards. Such measures, if passed, would automatically remove many signs that are not worth to their owners the payment of a license fee.

Although a great portion of the agitation against offensive roadside development is directed at billboards, these are not the only undesirable struc-

tures encountered along our roads and highways. There are the billboards' poor relations, the "snipe" signs, which clutter up trees, poles, barns and fences. There are misplaced and unsightly gas stations. And there are "slum ribbons" of shabby food stands, auto graveyards and other low-grade private development.

The safety factor is the most important argument for either control or removal of these offensive structures. Innumerable accidents have been caused and will continue to be caused so long as they remain to distract drivers' attention and to obscure points of danger along the road.

Depreciation of property values - for example, that of a high-grade suburban residential property which has been given a hot dog stand, auto graveyard or billboard for a next door neighbor - is still another potent argument.

Damage to and obstruction of the scenery is a third argument. Billboard interests have contended that, in some instances, a gayly-colored billboard has improved a homely looking piece of rural land. In comparison to the vast areas of precious scenery that have either been shut out or ruined by billboards and "shanty" concessions, however, the "improvements" are extremely few.

For really effective control of all roadside development, the public's best weapon is zoning. With the necessary State enabling legislation for zoning every square foot of the State already on our statute books, it only remains for our local officials to avail themselves of the powers granted them by this legislation. Concerted local opinion has been found to be a good means of encouraging local officials to take action in the public's interest.

RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 1939.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

(Weekly Series #121)

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board

ZONING TO PROTECT PUBLIC RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The safeguarding of our public parks and other recreational developments against low-grade private development is a problem of importance to all civic-minded Pennsylvanians. No matter how beautiful a newly developed park, bathing beach or other public recreational center may seem on dedication day and no matter how many thousands of dollars of taxpayers' money its construction may have cost, both beauty and investment will soon be ruined if unscrupulous private interests are permitted to ring the development with a slum fringe of hot dog stands, dance palaces and other shabby food and amusement concessions.

Not only does such low-grade development detract from the park's entire appearance, it also diverts revenue which would naturally accrue to publicly-owned concessions. This prevents the possibility of a self-sustain-

ing park - one that pays as it goes and is not a burden upon the taxpayer.

That this is a problem to be given every possible consideration in the development of future parks and other recreational facilities, no one who has visited the parks in Pennsylvania can deny. Two outstanding examples of the evils of private concession slums around public parks are near Pittsburgh, the State's second largest city, where both Allegheny North Park and Allegheny South Park, two of the State's most beautiful county parks, are girdled by shabby and dilapidated concession stands of every description.

Zoning is the public's recourse to the entire problem: not zoning that closes the barn door after the horse has been stolen, but zoning that is planned beforehand, that is an integral part of the plan for the recreational development itself and that is carried through in conjunction with the development of that plan.

In order to zone, however, there must be established a zoning commission having jurisdiction over the municipality in which the park or other facility is to be developed. Pennsylvania's state government has paved the way for the creating of such zoning bodies with the passage of enabling acts. These make possible the zoning of every square foot of the State. The most recent of such enabling legislation was passed by the 1937 session of the General Assembly and provides for the creation and powers of zoning commissions in counties that were previously without authority and in second class townships.

Zoning in Pennsylvania, however, is not retroactive; that is, local government cannot, by the passage of a zoning ordinance immediately abolish certain types of structures and land uses in certain places, if they are already in existence. For this reason, the zoning "barn door" should be closed before new developments are planned.

RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 1939.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

(Weekly Series Release #122)

Hydro-Electric Power in Pennsylvania

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by
F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State
Planning Board

Eighty per cent of the total installed hydro-electric power in Pennsylvania is in plants situated along the lower reaches of the Susquehanna River, and most of this eighty per cent is accounted for by the giant operations at Safe Harbor and Holtwood.

Both on the Lancaster County side of the river, the Safe Harbor and Holtwood plants are the largest in the State, while on the York County side of the river at York Haven is the State's fifth largest plant. At this point the Susquehanna has the necessary volume and fall for the generation of hydro-electric power, and the location is also good for the marketing of the power generated.

In their book, "Pennsylvania, a Regional Geography", Professors Raymond E. and Marion Murphy, of State College, say of the area:

"The significance of the power development of the region is better

appreciated when it is remembered that the Conowingo Dam on the Lower Susquehanna is located just a little south of the State line in Maryland, and that much of the power generated there too is used in southeastern Pennsylvania."

An interesting sidelight on the consumption of this hydro-electric power is the fact that Philadelphia, Pennsylvania's largest city, gets a great deal of its power from the Conowingo Dam in Maryland, while Baltimore, Maryland's largest city, gets its power from the Safe Harbor and Holtwood dams in Pennsylvania. Safe Harbor transmits most of its power to Baltimore, while Holtwood supplies, in addition to Baltimore, the Pennsylvania cities of York. Lancaster and Coatesville. Most of the power generated at York Haven is consumed in the York area.

The Safe Harbor plant was put into operation in 1931 and has a total installed capacity of 255,200 horsepower, although provision has been made for an ultimate capacity of 510,000 horsepower. The Holtwood plant was completed in 1910 and has a total installed capacity of 158,000 horsepower. It is operated in conjunction with a steam plant of 30,000 horsepower to accommodate peak loads. The York Haven plant has a total installed capacity of 29,213 horsepower.

Pennsylvania's power needs are for the most part supplied by steam plants. Because of the availability of cheap coal for power generation, hydro-electric power developments have not been attractive to private interests except in those cases where such projects do not require the erection of high dams or large storage reservoirs.

RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 1939

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E

(Weekly Series Release #123)

The Broad Top Coal Field

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by
F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State
Planning Board

An interesting freak of nature is the Broad Top bituminous coal field, situated at the junction of three counties -- Fulton, Bedford and Huntingdon. By some chance of erosion, streams have not cut away the younger coal-bearing rocks here as they did elsewhere. The result is a comparatively small coal field (80 square miles), entirely isolated geologically from the vast bituminous field of western Pennsylvania but producing 1.4% of the State's bituminous output and providing employment for nearly 2,000 men.

The history as well as the present appearance of the Broad Top field are described by Professors Raymond E. and Marion Murphy, in their book, "Pennsylvania, a Regional Geography":

"This little plateau is thought to have been settled by Tories at the time of the Revolutionary War. They mined coal for use in their

homes and in 1853 began commercial production. Today, much of the little upland is wooded, parts of it probably having reverted to forest after some earlier agricultural use, but coal mines and the waste dumps of former coal mines are the dominant cultural features. Drift mines are the most common, but there are some mines, too, using slopes to reach the coal. Robertsdale, Coalmont, Coaldale, and several other small population agglomerations, none with a total exceeding 1,000, are typical little coal mining villages. About twenty-five mines are now in operation employing nearly 2,000 men and producing 1.4% of the State's bituminous coal tonnage. Branch railroads reach the field from the northeast and west, and coal moves to consumers by means of these lines and by truck."

Around Wellersburg in southeastern Somerset County, there is another isolated bituminous coal field similar to Broad Top. Coal mining has never reached a commercial scale there, however.

RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 1939

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E
(Weekly Series Release #124)

PLANNING AND ZONING
Growing in Pennsylvania

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by
F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State
Planning Board

A gain of fourteen per cent in the number of Pennsylvania municipalities having either planning commission, zoning authority, or both, was registered during the past twelve months At this time last year, one hundred twelve of the State's communities had availed themselves of the powers granted in State enabling legislation to set up planning and zoning agencies. Today, the files of the State Planning Board reveal, the total is one hundred twenty-eight.

Thirty-seven of the municipalities listed have both planning and zoning, while thirty have planning commissions alone and sixty-two zoning authorities only. These figures compare with thirty-two, thirty-one and forty-nine respectively at the beginning of 1938. The most encouraging gain

is that of municipalities having both planning and zoning.

Pennsylvania's cities continue to lead in the number of planning organizations with thirty-five commissions. Boroughs are second with twenty-four. Three counties and five first-class townships have also such commissions.

Boroughs head the zoning roster with fifty-nine authorities, while the other types of municipalities are represented as follows: cities, twenty; first-class townships, seventeen; counties, one and second-class townships, two.

Although the number of planning agencies exceeds the number of zoning authorities in the cities, exactly the reverse is true in the boroughs and townships. The former condition is preferable since unplanned zoning is apt to do more harm than good. Zoning is too often thought of as coequal with planning. It is, however, only one of a number of implements used in planning, and its use should be preceded and prepared for by broad basic planning.

Civil subdivisions of Pennsylvania having both planning commissions and zoning authorities are: Counties, Bradford; Cities, Altoona, Bethlehem, Bradford, Butler, Chester, Coatesville, Connellsville, Easton, Erie, Hazleton, Johnstown, McKeesport, Monongahela, New Castle, Oil City, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Scranton, Uniontown, Williamsport: Boroughs, Ben Avon, Brentwood, Downingtown, Doylestown, Fox Chapel, Freeland, Greentree, Ingram, Narberth, Ridley Park, State College, Trafford; First-class Townships, Haverford, Lower Merion, Neville, Ridley.

Civil subdivisions having planning commissions only are: Counties, Allegheny, Monroe (un-official); Cities, Allentown, Clairton, DuBois, Farrell, Franklin, Greensburg, Harrisburg, Lancaster, Meadville, Monessen, Pottsville,

Reading, Sharon, Wilkes-Barre, York; Boroughs, Brackenridge, Camp Hill, Carlisle, Charleroi, Grove City, Liberty, New Cumberland, Picture Rocks, Sharon Hill, Tarentum, West Chester, West Pittston; First-class Townships, Whitehall.

Civil subdivisions having zoning authority only are: Boroughs, Aldan, Bellevue, Ben Avon Heights, Castle Shannon, Churchhill, Colwyn, Crafton, Dormont, East Lansdowne, Edgewood, Edgeworth, Emsworth, Etna, Folcroft, Forest Hills, Forty-Fort, Glassport, Kingston, Lansdowne, Leetsdale, Media, Midland, Monaca, Morrisville, Norristown, North Braddock, Norwood, Oakmont, Osborne, Palmerton, Paxtang, Prospect Park, Rochester, Rosslyn Farms, Sayre, Sellersville, Sewickley, Sewickley Heights, South Williamsport, Swarthmore, Swissvale, Thornburg, Warren, West Lawn, Westmont, West View, Wilkinsburg; First-class Townships, Abington, Baldwin, Braddock, Cheltenham, Mt. Lebanon, Nether Providence, Radnor, Ross, Shaler, Springfield (Delaware County), Springfield (Montgomery County), Upper Darby, Upper Moreland; Second-class Townships. Hampton, East Pennsboro.

RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 1939

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E
(Weekly Series Release #125)

Pennsylvania Gets Its Picture Taken

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by
F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State
Planning Board

Sometime this Summer, Pennsylvania will have for the first time in history a complete pictorial record of its physical form and features as well as of its cultural improvements. This record will consist of approximately 40,000 air photographs, most of them taken in a cooperative air photography program now being carried on by the United States Department of Agriculture and four Pennsylvania state agencies.

Begun last Fall, the actual photography work of the program has been inactive during the Winter months because of snow cover, unusual cloudiness and other adverse conditions incident to Winter. It will be resumed about April 1 when eight or ten planes again take to the air. Photographs are all made from a height of 16,000 feet since this is high enough to minimize distortion yet low enough to get a comprehensive reproduction of the area being

photographed.

For many years land-use developments in Pennsylvania have been hampered by the inadequacy of existing maps. Water supply and power developments, flood control projects, mining operations, land classification studies, civic and municipal improvements have all been retarded by the lack of modern maps.

While they could not possibly serve all the uses of other types of maps, air photographs are of tremendous importance in filling this need for modern maps. Since they show every feature on the surface of the earth which can be seen from an airplane, air photographs are not only of great direct use in themselves but are also very valuable in revising existing maps where the photos show these maps to be incomplete or in error.

Until recently, air photographs had been made only for certain limited portions of Pennsylvania, and these photographs, having differences in scales and in standards of accuracy, were unsuitable for anything broader than local uses. Last year, the State Planning Board arranged an agreement between the United States Department of Agriculture, the State Department of Highways, State Department of Forests and Waters, the State Game Commission and the Planning Board itself, by which each of these agencies is contributing to the cooperative air photography program of the entire State.

When this work is finished, a set of the photographs will be filed in the State Planning Board offices and will be available there for use by State and local agencies. Over 5000 contact prints, 7" X 9", covering more than 6000 square miles in central Pennsylvania are already on file. These cover Tioga,

Lycoming, Centre, Potter, Clinton, Montour and Snyder Counties, and the upper portions of Perry and Dauphin Counties. The photographs are at a scale of one inch equals 1667 feet and are suitable at this scale for comprehensive planning purposes. They may be enlarged up to 400 feet to the inch or, in some instances, even larger for use in detailed local planning.

RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5, 1939

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E
(Weekly Series Release #126)

Pennsylvania Mushroom Leader

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

Nearly 80% of the Nation's entire mushroom crop comes from a small area, the southeastern corner, in Chester County, Pennsylvania. The annual value of the crop to Chester County mushroom growers is nearly $8,000,000, more than that of any other Chester County crop, although the actual acreage given over to mushroom growing is negligible.

The mushroom industry was introduced to this country from France slightly more than twenty-five years ago, and since mushroom growing requires no exact climatic conditions, its location in Chester County seems to have been a chance development, say Professors Raymond E. and Marion Murphy, in their book, "Pennsylvania A Regional Geography." An important factor in the area's behalf, however, is its nearness to the big eastern urban markets. Most of the mushrooms growing is carried on as a specialized business, but in some cases it is a secondary interest of dairy farmers.

The main mushroom season is from October to May, but with artificial cooling the industry can operate in some cases, year round. Of course, artificial heating is necessary in the winter season. Sometimes the sheds are built over excavations several feet deep which makes easier the maintenance of uniform temperatures.

The mushrooms are picked and graded according to size, after which many move by truck and express to New York, Philadelphia, and other eastern cities and even as far west as Chicago. But a large part of the crop, too, is canned, Chester County and particularly West Chester Borough being widely known for the product.

Although the Chester County area is by far the most important mushroom producing locality of the State, yet there are a few widely scattered banks elsewhere, in adjoining counties; there are some in caves near West Winfield, Butler County; and there are a few more in Allegheny County where they are grown for the Pittsburgh curb market. Of special interest are attempts to grow mushrooms in abandoned mines in western Pennsylvania.

RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY APRIL 12, 1939.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E
(Weekly Series Release #127)

Pennsylvania's Rainfall Habits

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

This being "rainy April", it should not be inappropriate to report that the average annual precipitation in Pennsylvania is 42 inches. Eastern Pennsylvania is subject to the greatest precipitation with 46 inches.

In Eastern Pennsylvania excessive rains are not infrequent, and torrents in excess of seven inches within twenty-four hours have been recorded on numerous occasions. The average annual precipitation of 46 inches is almost ideal from an agricultural standpoint, and the rains during the crop season are usually ample and fairly dependable. There are, however, occasional droughts in July and August, though these are not long enough to destroy the crops.

The average annual precipitation in Central Pennsylvania is 40.74 inches. The southern portions of the region are subject to severe thunderstorms,

and heavy local rains have been recorded, many times amounting to five or six inches in twenty-four hours and to as much as eight or nine inches for a single storm. In northcentral Pennsylvania the growing season is occasionally too short for some crops, especially corn, and periods of summer drought are not uncommon. The average annual precipitation for this northern region is 36 inches, which is enough when it happens to be well distributed. The middle portion of Central Pennsylvania, which includes most of the ridge and valley region, has an average precipitation of about 42 inches and its valley lands have a growing season nearly as long as that of the southern counties.

Western Pennsylvania has an average annual precipitation of 42 inches, which occurs as a rule in smaller amounts and at more frequent intervals than in the eastern and central portions of the State. Rainfalls in excess of 2.5 inches in twenty-four hours are comparatively rare.

RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY APRIL 19, 1939.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E
(Weekly Series Release #128)

Pennsylvania's Population History

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

The present-day distribution of Pennsylvania's 10,000,000 people in an immense pattern of urban and rural settlement is the result of seven great population movements that took place during the 18th and 19th centuries, and of two smaller but hardly less significant 20th century shifts. For while the earlier movements each came about from the discovery of successive sources of wealth and activity, the two latter-day shifts (in which we are still engaged) are those of "flight", from urban congestion in the one instance; from unemployment in the other.

Pennsylvania's earliest population movement was, of course, the penetration by newly-arrived, land-hungry settlers into the fertile valleys of the young royal colony. After that there came in logical sequence the rapid development of commerce and the rise not only of two cities destined to be among the greatest in the new Nation -- Philadelphia and Pittsburgh --, but also of

many other commercially strategic smaller communities.

The third great movement of people in and into Pennsylvania marked the beginnings of an expansion that would eventually make Pennsylvania the industrial leader of the world. Its source was the discovery of anthracite coal. Into the coal-bearing regions of northeastern Pennsylvania flocked thousands of men to mine the black diamonds, and up sprang the pioneer mining towns of Carbondale, Mauch Chunk and Pottsville, to be followed a little later by Scranton, "The Anthracite Capitol of the World"; Wilkes-Barre, Hazleton and scores of other hard coal towns.

When Colonel Edwin L. Drake struck oil in 1859, Pennsylvania's fourth population movement was underway, and Titusville, Oil City and Franklin were soon roaring boom towns, the forerunners of many other northwestern Pennsylvania oil producing communities such as Bradford, currently the State's greatest producing center.

At about the same time the fifth movement of population was gaining strength, and 1870 saw a steady stream of emigrants to northcentral Pennsylvania in the great lumber boom. Urban centers which owe their real start to this boom include, among others, Williamsport, Lock Haven and Clearfield. By 1870 Williamsport was the greatest lumber town in Pennsylvania.

The scene shifted to southwestern Pennsylvania for the sixth and seventh population movements which, to a great extent, went hand in hand, although the source of the sixth movement, the discovery of bituminous coal, led by a number of years the source of the seventh movement, the expansion of the steel industry.

Upon the pattern formed by these seven great movements, the State's population has grown to its present greatness.

In the 1920's the eight population shift, that of people from the cities to the suburbs, reached such an accelerated pace that it represented a definite trend, and this has continued throughout the 1930's. The ninth population movement is a by-product of the recent depression, that of unemployed people emigrating back to the farm in an effort to earn a living from the soil. As business conditions improve, and employment opportunities gain, however, many of these people will undoubtedly return to the city or the suburbs around the city.

In a recent study made by the State Planning Board, it was found possible to group every one of the State's 67 counties into four general groups on the basis of their growth history. These groups of counties, whose major problems are similar because they have arisen from similar economic and social causes, provide definite bases for defining and dealing with many of our most pressing contemporary problems.

RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 1939.

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E
(Weekly Series Release #129)

Pennsylvania's Educational Future

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

If our great State educational investment, which is annually larger than that of the entire Republic of France, is to serve Pennsylvania properly during the next twenty years, our schools must themselves assume the leadership in adapting their facilities to our changing needs. The penalty for failing to do so may be the decline of many of our proudest institutions of learning, and a lost opportunity of service during years in which properly directed educational programs can do more perhaps than at any time in the past to enable our people to live happily in a rapidly changing world.

Our school population in the elementary grades is already markedly declining, although in the secondary grades it is now at an all-time high. These changes in school attendance correspond to the following birth-rate facts. In the early 1920's our number of births had reached a maximum, and it is the

children born during that period who are crowding our high schools. But the number five years of age and younger is now less than half the number of those ten years of age, and the number one year of age is less than one-fifth of those of five years of age. These facts are true for Pennsylvania as well as for the total United States population and a similar condition is observable in Europe.

It will not do to assume that it has been our business depression and its consequences that are to blame for these facts, for it is in the period before the business depression occurred that these changes became evident. Sample surveys and careful population estimates made since 1930 seem to indicate a continuance of this trend, not only for the United States and for Pennsylvania, but also for most of the civilized world.

In Pennsylvania the decline in future school population is particularly emphatic for all our counties east of the Allegheny Mountains. The predominance of children in Pennsylvania is in the western half of the State, but even in the county exhibiting the largest proportion of population at age five and under (Fayette County), those under age one are fewer than one fifth the number under age five, and those under five fewer than those from five to ten which, considering the inevitable mortalities of early life, is a startling condition.

The decline in the proportion of children has been accompanied by an increase in numbers of those of middle life and older, who are now a majority of our population, whereas during all our early State and National history, those under twenty-one formed a majority.

The second change bearing on the future of education is the increase of leisure time. This increase in leisure is due, in part, to technological unemployment, and in part to a spreading of employment and to an increasing demand for leisure, both of which influences result in shorter hours of work as compared with business and industrial conditions of a generation ago.

Education must, therefore, (for the next twenty years) face these facts: the elementary school population will decline unless there is extensive immigration into Pennsylvania. The high school population is now at its probable maximum over any predictable period. The probability is high that it also will gradually decline, despite the recent advance in the age limit for compulsory education. But the need for education is not declining. The need is, perhaps, growing, but it is a need among older people for instruction and direction in the wise use of leisure time. Under these conditions, if our State institutions, our normal schools and our local elementary and high school plants are to retain their present usefulness, they must at once approach the problem of adult education in a serious way.

Our normal schools and universities must devote more of their facilities to preparing future teachers for adult education, and recreational leadership, and our elementary schools and high schools must offer their facilities for community use and depart from their traditional function of serving only children.

Under Pennsylvania's progressive school laws, the public school facilities of every community are at present available for adult use for

recreation and instruction, if there is public demand. But the public is very largely unaware of the fact that the gymnasiums, class-rooms and assembly halls of their schools belong to the adults of the community no less than to their children.

In these aspects of the role of education in the adult section of the community lie many of the basic needs for a more widely informed and statistically supported public planning. At this present hour we can begin a wise program of educational planning, that will meet these new problems as they arise. If we neglect to make such a plan and to accumulate the data on which the plan can properly be made, public education will be failing to meet its responsibilities to the people of our State.

RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WEDNESDAY, MAY 3rd, 1939

K N O W Y O U R S T A T E
(Weekly Series Release #130)

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by
F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State
Planning Board

THE INDUSTRY THAT "CAME OUT OF NOWHERE"

As the apple blossoms of Adams and Franklin Counties burst into full bloom early this month, they will serve to symbolize the remarkable growth of this apple-growing region from comparative obscurity 40 years ago to State pre-eminence today. In 1900 Frankin County ranked only nineteenth in the State's apple production by counties, while Adams County was not even listed in the first twenty-five.

Shortly after the turn of the century, however, Adams and Franklin Countians discovered that the region was a "natural" for apple-growing not only because of its made-to-order soil and climate, but also because of its proximity to the great eastern markets. As more and more orchards were set out in the succeeding years, Adams County came from virtually out of nowhere to take first ranking among the entire State's 67 counties, and Franklin County

kept pace by climbing from ninetsenth to second. At the present time the foothills of Adams County constitute the most important section of the area, but the industry extends along the entire length of the base of South Mountain.

Maintaining a constant leadership throughout these years, the York Imperial is still the most important variety grown, with Stayman Winesap holding second place. Other standard varieties grown in large quantity are the Ben Davis, the Grimes Golden and the Jonathan, and growers are also experimenting with a number of additional types, including the Galia and Mackintosh By-product plants for canning the apples, making cider and preforming a host of other functions, are located in the many towns throughout the region, and these uses consume approximately 50% of the area's crop.

Since the orchards are planted at various elevations ranging from 600 to 1,000 feet above sea level, the successive blossoming of their trees extends over a two-week period. Each apple-blossom time, more and more Pennsylvanians and residents of nearby States are making pilgrimages to Adams and Franklin Counties to enjoy the blossoms' delicate beauty, and growers of the region are planning increasingly elaborate activities to attract these visitors. While the annual "Apple Blossom Festivals" have not yet reached the proportions of the Shenandoah Valley festivals in Virginia, they are growing rapidly in popularity and size.

Intensive apple-growing in Adams and Franklin Counties is a comparatively recent development, but there seems little doubt that it will remain permanently as a tremendously important south-central Pennsylvania industry.

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K N O W Y O U R S T A T E
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The Decline of Coal

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper) by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania State Planning Board.

In few industries have the warning of declines and crises been more conspicuously apparent than in the coal industry. Over the past decade the value of product for anthracite coal, in which Pennsylvania enjoys a virtual monopoly, steadily declined from a total for the State in 1927 of $416,182,700 for an output of 66,934,756 net tons to a low in 1937 of $192,628,900 for an output of 49,404,092 net tons. For the same period capital investment, while it underwent a slight decline through the valley of the 30's, has remained practically the same.

It is, however, when the consequences in unemployment and curtailed income to consumers are examined that the picture becomes most disturbing. The number of employes for the same period declined from a total in 1927 of 169,310 to 93,814 in 1937 (the lowest point in the data series as yet available) while wages slid from $275,097,300 to less than one-half this sum in 1937. Since the high point in 1927, there has been a steady decline in employment without a break. The realized price of coal also has been steadily falling over the past decade.

And, while the steady and accelerated accumulation of excess production has been piling up losses over the past score of years, there has been a decreasing volume of output and an even more rapidly decreasing income from sales with which to absorb such losses.

It is not probable that employment for all mine workers can be greatly enlarged in view of the increased mechanization which is constantly displacing miners. As a consequence of technologic improvements, the per man output in 1929 was already seen to have doubled that of 1889, having risen from two and one-half tons per man-day to five tons per man-day. For years there has been intermittent discussion of the need for revision of crippling freight rates. As long ago as 1924 proposals had been made for dealing with transportation costs and for the elimination of wastes of various kinds in the industry, for the conversion of coal into electrical energy at the mine mouth, and for the salvaging of surpluses by the development of a variety of by-products.

These data have not been paraded for the purpose of indicating any solution for Pennsylvania's coal problem, but primarily to illustrate the apparently unimportant role played, up to this time, by factual data in dealing with this dramatic if somewhat isolated problem of wisely planning the schools for what has now become a distressed area of our State.

Yet it serves to illustrate a danger inherent to all public improvement not supported by sound planning. When a people has found itself able for generations to proceed from almost any assumption and finds itself vindicated by the expansion of wealth and opportunity characteristic of a pioneer economy, it is difficult to convince it of the need for painstaking analysis and careful interpretation as prerequisites for action.

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INDUSTRY AND PLANNING

Prepared for the (Editor: Insert name of your paper)
by F. A. Pitkin, Executive Director, Pennsylvania
State Planning Board.

As an immediate contribution toward the solution of those economic problems which necessitated the creation of the newly-established State Department of Commerce, the State Planning Board will furnish to Secretary of Commerce Richard P. Brown preliminary findings of a State-wide study on industrial migration and localization. This will be the first release of any of the findings of the survey which has been conducted over the past two years by the Planning Board.

Results of the industrial study will provide material of assistance in the new department's program of business analysis and industrial development. The close relations between the State Planning Board and the new Department of Commerce, made possible by the recent legislation,assures the well planned approach needed to effect rapid and sane progress.

Covering every phase of Pennsylvania industry, the survey was, when started several years ago, a departure from the then accepted concepts of state planning activity. Since that time, however, the job of finding out the reasons for industrial migration and localization has received increasing attention from planners throughout the Nation, and this topic occupied an important place in the program of the National Conference on Planning held in Boston last week.

In addition to specific industrial studies a state planning board can also be of aid to business and industry through research and analysis to determine conditions affecting taxes, markets and future economic conditions For instance: where population trends indicate expanding markets and where they indicate diminishing markets; what manufacturers can prosper in the St[illegible] what physical developments are necessary to service manufacturing areas or consumption areas; what maximum population we can look forward to -- what level of wealth and well-being.

In Pennsylvania, these are a few of the problems of state planning -- not all by any means. But they all have one factor in common: their definite relation to the industrial structure of an industrial State. Over the period of its existence, the Pennsylvania State Planning Board has accumulated a wealth of data on these and many other problems and conditions in the State, much of which can find a definite place in the proposed program of the Department of Commerce.